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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LOWENTHAL).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 25, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ALAN S. LOWENTHAL to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

SOCIALISTS' BIG LIE PROPAGANDA EXPOSED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BROOKS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, a "big lie" is a political propaganda technique made famous by Germany's National Socialist German Workers' Party. But more on that later.

For more than 2 years, Socialist Democrats and their fake news media allies, CNN, MSNBC, The New York Times, Washington Post, and countless others, have perpetrated the biggest

political lie, con, scam, and fraud in American history.

Attorney General Barr's executive summary of Mueller's report has publicly confirmed what many of us have known for a long time. The accusations of collusion between President Trump and Russia in the 2016 elections are nothing but a big lie.

The Mueller investigation was massive. It "employed 19 lawyers who were assisted by a team of approximately 40 FBI agents, intelligence forensic accountants, and other professional staff. The special counsel issued more than 2,800 subpoenas, executed nearly 500 search warrants, obtained more than 230 orders for communication records . . . and interviewed approximately 500 witnesses."

After tens of millions of wasted American tax dollars, the finding is succinct: "The report does not recommend any further indictments, nor did the special counsel obtain any sealed indictments that have yet to be made public. . . ."

The investigation "did not establish that members of the Trump campaign conspired or coordinated with the Russian Government in its election interference activities."

The Mueller report vindicates President Trump and his 2016 campaign from the Socialists' baseless, reckless, and false big lie charges of Russian election collusion.

Equally important, there is a converse to President Trump's vindication.

Mueller's report confirms that Socialist Democrats and their fake news media allies made up nonexistent allegations and engaged in the most sordid of fake news, big lie propaganda, scam, fraud, and smear campaign in American history.

Socialist Democrats and their fake news media allies were shameless, shameless in their big lie scam that has inspired hatred against President

Trump and violence against Americans who support America's foundational principles.

If Socialists and the fake news media had any honor, they would cleanse their souls and atone for their sins by uttering mea culpas and apologizing to the American people for the fraud and scam committed.

More likely, however, they will double down and propagate even more big lies, because doubling down is essential to big lie theory. In that vein, I quote from another Socialist who mastered big lie propaganda to a maximum and deadly effect.

"In the big lie, there is always a certain force of credibility; because the broad masses of a nation are always more easily corrupted in the deeper strata of their emotional nature than consciously or voluntarily; and thus in the primitive simplicity of their minds they more readily fall victims to the big lie than the small lie, since they themselves often tell small lies in little matters but would be ashamed to resort to large-scale falsehoods.

"It would never come into their heads to fabricate colossal untruths, and they would not believe that others could have the impudence to distort the truth so infamously. Even though the facts which prove this to be so may be brought clearly to their minds, they will still doubt and waver and will continue to think that there may be some other explanation."

Who is this big lie master? That quote was in 1925 by a member of Germany's National Socialist German Workers' Party. That is right, Germany's Socialist Party, more commonly known as the Nazis. The author was Socialist Adolph Hitler in his book, "Mein Kampf".

Mr. Speaker, America can either learn from history or be doomed to repeat it.

When it comes to big lie political propaganda in America, as the Mueller

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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report confirms, America's Socialists and their fake news media allies are experts and have no peers.

Regardless, America must reject their big lies or succumb to the danger that lurks and horrific damage that results.

NATIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise on National Medal of Honor Day to recognize the recipients of our Nation's highest military distinction for acts above and beyond the call of duty.

Twenty-five Medal of Honor recipients hail from Arkansas. Their stories of self-sacrifice are not forgotten.

Today, we pay tribute to those individuals for their meticulous service, sacrifice, and heroism.

I would like to also recognize and thank Arkansas Boy Scout Donald J. Fitzgerald for his outstanding work to preserve the legacy of Medal of Honor recipients and their stories.

Over the last 3 years, Donald has visited the graves of over 160 Medal of Honor recipients, documenting several Medal of Honor recipients' stories and lives.

He chose to share with the world what he learned, and wrote a book about his travels titled, "Our Missions of Honor".

I applaud Donald for his initiative, his efforts, and dedication to all Medal of Honor recipients past and present.

We pray that their efforts may be long remembered by our citizens.

GULF WAR MEMORIAL

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two fellow Arkansans, Jeff Kurczek and Brenten Byrd, for their valiant efforts to memorialize the bravery and legacy of veterans who served in Operation Desert Storm.

Operation Desert Storm was one of the most successful operations in American military history. Over 700,000 Americans were deployed overseas to liberate Kuwait from Saddam Hussein's invasion. 383 Americans lost their lives in that conflict, including four Arkansans.

Last month, former Vice President Dick Cheney and others took part in the dedication of the future site for the National Operation Desert Storm Memorial located on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

Jeff, a Sherwood, Arkansas, accountant, served our country for the duration of the Gulf war and acts as the organization's treasurer and CFO.

Brent lives in Elm Springs, Arkansas, where he works with the Veteran's Affairs Department on the mental well-being of our veterans. He served honorably in the U.S. Marines and later in the U.S. Army during Desert Storm. He now acts as the organization's communications director.

I thank them for their service to our Nation and commend their good work and efforts to honor the brave men and women who took part in Operation Desert Storm.

VAN BUREN COUNTY WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the efforts of the committed professionals at Van Buren County and their determination to improve that community's health and well-being.

The Van Buren County Wellness Committee, founded by former County Judge Roger Hooper in 2017, seeks to create a bridge between local health resources, information, and initiatives to improve the health and well-being of the residents.

At present, three grant-funded health-awareness kiosks have been installed across the county featuring asset mapping of community health resources and county health initiatives.

These kiosks allow residents to find the best doctors and healthcare services within their communities, connecting individuals with the services they need, from food insecurity to mental health support and recovery.

I would like to extend a hand of gratitude and congratulations to Roger and the entire Van Buren County Wellness Committee for their worthwhile investment in the health of our citizens in that county.

WE MUST STAND WITH OUR FRIENDS IN ISRAEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, this past week, President Trump and Secretary Pompeo took a bold step to affirm Israel's sovereignty over the Golan Heights. I support this administration and our long-time friend and ally, Israel, in this fight to protect their homeland.

I have stood on the mountains of the Golan where Abraham and his nephew Lot parted ways some 4,000 years ago. I could hear the cannons and the missiles and the tanks just miles away in war-stricken Syria. We learned how, in a matter of hours during the Yom Kippur war of 1974, Syrian forces overran the Golan, jeopardizing both Israeli and American security.

This small range of mountains, less than 125 miles from Jerusalem, serves as a buffer from Israel and its many foes who desire nothing more than to wipe them off of the face of the Earth.

From the 3rd millennium B.C., the occupants of the Golan Heights have included the Amorites, Arameans, Israelites, Assyrians, Babylonians, Persians, the Israelites again, Alexander the Great, and the Roman Empire. In later centuries, Christians crusaded, Mongols ruled, and the Ottomans conquered the land.

Starting in 1885, Jewish families bought and lived on the land in the Golan Heights, and stayed there until

1920, when riots drove them out. For the next 40 years, the boundaries of this area were debated and defined by the French and the British.

We all know the State of Israel was born in 1948, and the Golan was mutually shared with neighboring countries. This, however, led to constant raids and civil unrest in the region and debate over a scarce item in the area, water.

Finally, in the 1960s, Syria ignored previous water agreements and attempted to divert water from Israel. This led to the armed War over Water, which was won by Israel in 1967, and pushed the Syrians out of the Golan, leaving Israel in control once again.

This is where most leftist naysayers will begin their history, as if Israel had no claim to the land in the first place or as if it never had been contested.

This matters for America for a variety of reasons. Set aside the fact that Israel is our most loyal and strategically vital ally in the Middle East. Let's look at Russia. Americans are rightly concerned about the cyber and geopolitical moves of that adversarial nation. The Golan, however, is an example of where those on the left are turning a blind eye.

Since the time of Peter the Great and Catherine the Great, Russia has sought a warm-water port in the Mediterranean and to stake their claim to land south of the Black Sea. Not only does Syria provide them both, it also presents an opportunity for Russia and their ally Iran, as the leaders have said, to wipe Israel off the map.

We cannot let this happen. We mustn't let this happen. We must continue to stand up to thugs like Putin and Assad, and with our friends in Israel.

THERE WAS NO COLLUSION

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, no collusion, no collusion, no collusion.

That is right. After 2 years, Mr. Speaker, let me say that again: there is no collusion.

After 2 years and a cost of more than \$25 million, that is \$50,000 a day spent on this witch hunt of taxpayer money, there was no collusion.

And indeed, there was no pot of gold at the end of the media's rainbow; nothing besides fool's gold yet again.

Mr. Speaker, how can you spend \$50,000 a day on an investigation?

As I think back, I may have been the first person in the Chamber to call this investigation for what it was: a witch hunt.

Now, I am not a lawyer, but Kansas common sense would suggest if there was no collusion, no corrupt intent by the President, and no crime committed, there would be absolutely no case for an obstruction of justice charge. But I am sure Kansas common sense is the last thing on the minds of some Members of Congress.

So now, during every waking hour for 675 straight days, Democrats and the media have had a field day smearing the President, his friends, and his family.

They have hired 19 lawyers, 40 FBI agents, and issued nearly 3,000 subpoenas, all of which have further confirmed what we already knew before the investigation started: there was no collusion.

□ 1215

Importantly, Mueller confirmed that no one with the Trump campaign conspired or coordinated with the Russian Government. Additionally, we found out through this investigation the Russians made many attempts to offer to help the Trump campaign, and time and time again, the Trump team stood up and rejected Russia.

I want the media, which spent thousands of hours painting a picture of collusion and conspiracy, to cover these Mueller findings that show the President stood firm against the Russian's multiple attempts. And I ask the Democrats, who misled the public for months, to come forward and speak the truth.

Instead, what does the biased media and Democrats say in response to Mueller's verdict? Absolutely nothing. You could almost hear a pin drop as I walked through the Capitol today. It is so quiet. No Democrats are here today for morning-hour debate. What does that say?

As I stand on the House floor today, I have one question for this Chamber and for this Nation: Can we please move on and work with our President, rather than against him, and focus on policy rather than fantasy?

NEBRASKA FLOODING AND SEVERE WEATHER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring attention to the harsh weather and flooding experienced throughout the State of Nebraska over the past few weeks.

On Wednesday, March 13, a large storm, known as a bomb cyclone, hit our State of Nebraska and much of the Midwest. It brought with it blizzard conditions, high wind, and large amounts of rain, followed by highly destructive flooding, which continues in some areas today.

As I spent the past week touring damage and recovery efforts, one theme was clear: Nebraskans don't scare from a challenge, nor do they stand by as their friends and neighbors suffer. Entire communities have come together to fill sand bags, open shelters, and rescue neighbors in need. Ranchers across the State have battled to clear pastures, reunify herds, and reach newborn calves.

I appreciate President Trump moving quickly to approve a Federal disaster declaration requested by Governor Ricketts and supported by the entire Nebraska congressional delegation. Governor Ricketts has estimated the cost of rebuilding infrastructure de-

stroyed by the storm at more than \$400 million, and the Nebraska Farm Bureau estimates the toll from lost crop and livestock production could top even \$1 billion.

The recovery will not be easy, but the hard work and dedication of Nebraskans across the State will be on full display as we recover, rebuild, and renew what was lost in these tragic events.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LOWENTHAL) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Gracious God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Send us Your spirit. Enlighten the hearts of those who are faithful and tireless in securing equal justice under the law. Fulfill the hopes of those who long for peace and security for their children. Guide and protect all elected officials and all who choose to serve this Nation and local communities through public service.

May Your will be done in and through those who pray for divine guidance and who trust in Your providence, even in the midst of conflicting opinions, philosophical differences, and the threat of violence.

Unite Your people and keep them focused on essentials that reflect Your kingdom. May the fires of Your love, and human freedom, renew the face of the Earth.

And may all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4:45 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1645

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LOWENTHAL) at 4 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

VENEZUELA ARMS RESTRICTION ACT

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 920) to restrict the transfer of defense articles, defense services, and crime control articles to any element of the security forces of Venezuela that is under the authority of a government of Venezuela that is not recognized as the legitimate government of Venezuela by the Government of the United States, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 920

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Venezuela Arms Restriction Act".

SEC. 2. RESTRICTION ON EXPORT OF COVERED ARTICLES AND SERVICES TO CERTAIN SECURITY FORCES OF VENEZUELA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, covered articles or services may not be exported from the United States to any element of the security forces of Venezuela that is under the authority of a government of Venezuela that is not recognized as the legitimate government of Venezuela by the Government of the United States.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce and the heads of other departments and agencies as appropriate, shall—

(1) determine, using such information that is available to the Secretary of State, whether any covered article or service has been

transferred since July 2017 to the security forces of Venezuela without a license or other authorization as required by law; and

(2) submit such determination in writing to the appropriate congressional committees.

SEC. 3. REPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce as appropriate, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the transfer by foreign persons of covered articles or services to elements of the security forces of Venezuela that are under the authority of a government of Venezuela that is not recognized as the legitimate government of Venezuela by the Government of the United States.

(b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) A list of all significant transfers by foreign persons of covered articles or services to such elements of the security forces of Venezuela since July 2017.

(2) A list of all foreign persons who maintain an existing defense relationship with such elements of the security forces of Venezuela.

(3) Any known use of covered articles or services by such elements of the security forces of Venezuela or associated forces, including paramilitary groups, that have coordinated with such security forces to assault, intimidate, or murder political activists, protesters, dissidents, and other civil society leaders, including Juan Guaido.

SEC. 4. TERMINATION.

This Act shall expire on the earlier of—

(1) the date that is 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(2) the date on which the President certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that the Government of Venezuela has returned to a democratic form of government with respect for the essential elements of representative democracy as set forth in Article 3 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter.

SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

(2) COVERED ARTICLE OR SERVICE.—The term “covered article or service”—

(A) for purposes of section 2, means—

(i) a defense article or defense service, as such terms are defined in section 47 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2794); and

(ii) any article included on the Commerce Control List set forth in Supplement No. 1 to part 774 of the Export Administration Regulations under subchapter C of chapter VII of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations, and controlled for crime control purposes, if it is determined that the end-user is likely to use the article to violate the human rights of the citizens of Venezuela; and

(B) for purposes of section 3, means—

(i) any defense article or defense service of the type described in section 47 of the Arms Export Control Act; and

(ii) any article of the type included on the Commerce Control List set forth in Supplement No. 1 to part 774 of the Export Administration Regulations and controlled for crime control purposes.

(3) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign person” means a person that is not a United States person.

(4) PERSON.—The term “person” means an individual or entity.

(5) SECURITY FORCES OF VENEZUELA.—The term “security forces of Venezuela” includes—

(A) the Bolivarian National Armed Forces, including the Bolivarian National Guard;

(B) the Bolivarian National Intelligence Service;

(C) the Bolivarian National Police; and

(D) the Bureau for Scientific, Criminal and Forensic Investigations of the Ministry of Interior, Justice, and Peace.

(6) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term “United States person” means—

(A) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or of any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an entity.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIREs) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. ROONEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 920, the Venezuela Arms Restriction Act, as amended, currently under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 920.

I would like to begin by thanking Ms. SHALALA for her leadership in authoring this important piece of legislation. She has been a leading voice in supporting the Venezuelan people.

Sadly, human rights violations in Venezuela are nothing new. In recent months, Nicolas Maduro and his cronies have intensified their brutal crackdown on those who have bravely and peacefully pushed for change.

With an increasing wave of demonstrations protesting the Maduro regime, Congress must do all it can to support efforts by the Venezuelan people to restore its democracy. This means making sure that weapons from the United States aren't being used to commit these horrific acts of violence against civilians. U.S. companies and individuals should not be able to profit from the repression of the Venezuelan people.

H.R. 920 codifies existing restrictions on arms exports to Venezuela's security forces and adds new restrictions on items like tear gas and riot gear that have been used to suppress peaceful protesters.

As the protests continue, you can be sure that the Maduro regime will do

everything it can to silence the Venezuelan people; so Congress must do everything in its power to keep these dangerous items out of the hands of the Venezuelan security forces.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Venezuela Arms Restriction Act introduced by my colleagues from Florida, Congresswoman SHALALA and Congressman DIAZ-BALART, to whom we are deeply grateful. I would also like to thank Chairman SIREs for his support and leadership both of our committee and of this bill.

The criminal socialist dictatorship of Nicolas Maduro is systematically violating the human rights of the Venezuelan people through violence, intimidation, torture, and murder. According to local NGO Foro Penal, there are more than 850 political prisoners in Venezuela today.

Just last week, Maduro's intelligence services arrested Roberto Marrero, the chief of staff for the interim President and constitutional leader of Venezuela, Juan Guaido. The regime has made ludicrous claims that Marrero was leading a terrorist cell and it reportedly planted weapons and cash to try to frame him.

The Congress and the people of the United States must stand united with the people of Venezuela to help ensure that all individuals who violate their human rights are held accountable.

This bill supports these efforts by identifying and holding accountable any U.S. entities providing defense articles to Maduro's security forces, and it restricts all U.S. sales of defense articles to his socialist criminal dictatorship.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in demonstrating our commitment to defending the security and human rights of the Venezuelan people by supporting this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. SHALALA), the author of this bill.

Ms. SHALALA. Mr. Speaker, this evening, Congress will vote on a bill I introduced, H.R. 920, the Venezuela Arms Restriction Act. This bipartisan bill prohibits the export of defense articles and crime control materials from the United States to the security forces of Venezuela.

The United States should have no business selling these tools for oppression to the Maduro regime, as it punishes and kills those who are peacefully protesting and demanding a return to democracy.

Since Maduro usurped power in January, we have seen headline after headline:

“Maduro's Forces Kill, Injure Protesters as Standoff Over Aid in Venezuela Escalates”;

“Four Dead, Hundreds Detained After Venezuela Blackout”; and

“Venezuela Security Forces Kill, Punish Anti-Maduro Protestors.”

A few weeks ago, I traveled to the Venezuela-Colombia border, where I heard heartbreaking stories of friends and family members dying of starvation and treatable diseases, all while a brutal dictator does everything possible to prevent aid from being delivered.

I met with refugees at hospitals in Colombia and heard their harrowing stories of being on the verge of death due to a lack of medical care. There were a number of high-risk pregnancies as a result.

This is a humanitarian crisis that has bled through Venezuela's borders, and it continues to grow.

This is personal for us in south Florida, where thousands of Venezuelans who have fled the crisis now call home. We will continue to push for TPS, because our response to this crisis must include supporting our friends and neighbors in south Florida and around the country.

Today, in addition to the Venezuela Arms Restriction Act, we will vote on bills introduced by my south Florida colleagues to support the people of Venezuela as they demand free and fair elections. We will vote on bills to provide humanitarian aid directly to the Venezuelan people and a bill targeting Russian influence in Venezuela and its impact on the United States.

Today, Congress will not stand idly by as this humanitarian crisis rages on. With the passage of the Venezuela Arms Restriction Act, we will move one step closer to fulfilling our obligations to ensure that no weapons originating in the United States are used to silence dissent through intimidation, repression, and execution. Congress, today, will affirm its commitment to the women and men of Venezuela who are fighting for democracy and a brighter future.

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers.

In closing, I thank the authors of the bill. Congresswoman SHALALA just spoke about the depth and breadth of the horrible humanitarian crisis that we see on our doorstep in Venezuela. I would like to comment that the average Venezuelan has lost over 20 kilos of weight in the last 2 years and they haven't had protein, so the whole country is starving to death, worse than any Warsaw Pact dictatorship has ever done.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I thank Congressman DIAZ-BALART and certainly Chairman SIRES for their leadership on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I call on all of my colleagues to enthusiastically support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, I again thank Ms. SHALALA for her strong and timely

leadership on this legislation. It shows a strong commitment to the Venezuelan people and to our constituents who care so deeply about this issue.

The human rights situation in Venezuela is absolutely deplorable, and it is important that we take the common-sense steps in this legislation to help end the ongoing repression. Passing this measure will send an important message that Congress stands with the Venezuelan people.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIRES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 920, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE VENEZUELAN PEOPLE ACT OF 2019

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 854) to provide humanitarian assistance to the Venezuelan people, including Venezuelan migrants and refugees in the Americas and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 854

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Humanitarian Assistance to the Venezuelan People Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. REPORT ON THE COORDINATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLE OF VENEZUELA INCLUDING STRATEGY ON FUTURE EFFORTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report outlining the coordination of humanitarian assistance to the people of Venezuela, both in Venezuela and throughout the Western Hemisphere, with nongovernmental organizations and international organizations operating in Venezuela or countries in the region to alleviate the suffering of the Venezuelan people.

(b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report required under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) A description of how and under what circumstances the following humanitarian assistance has been provided:

(A) Public health commodities for Venezuelan health facilities and services, including medicines on the World Health Organization's List of Essential Medicines, and basic medical supplies and equipment.

(B) Basic food commodities and nutritional supplements needed to address growing malnutrition and improve food security for the

people of Venezuela, with a specific emphasis on the most vulnerable populations.

(C) Technical assistance to ensure health and food commodities are appropriately selected, procured, and distributed, predominantly through local nongovernmental organizations.

(2) An identification of United States Agency for International Development and Department of State best practices in delivering humanitarian assistance, particularly with regard to food assistance, and how such best practices are being utilized in providing humanitarian assistance to Venezuela and countries in the region.

(3) A description of current and anticipated challenges to distributing humanitarian assistance in Venezuela and countries hosting Venezuelan migrants.

(4) A description of efforts to ensure that humanitarian and development assistance for Venezuelans is coordinated with other United States bilateral assistance in the Western Hemisphere and does not result in duplication or omission of such other bilateral assistance.

(5) A description of how the pre-positioning and distribution of humanitarian assistance is being monitored and evaluated, the number of beneficiaries reached, an assessment of how humanitarian and development assistance is benefitting Venezuelan migrants inside and outside of the country, and what additional staff may be necessary to manage such assistance.

(6) A strategy for future efforts to provide humanitarian assistance to the people of Venezuela that includes a description of future efforts regarding the matters described in paragraphs (1) through (5).

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF CONGRESS.

Congress strongly condemns all violent actions by the Maduro regime and Venezuela's security forces to block and divert humanitarian assistance from entering Venezuela.

SEC. 4. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT ON UNITED STATES EFFORTS TO PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLE OF VENEZUELA.

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to appropriate congressional committees a report assessing the impact of United States humanitarian assistance on the people of Venezuela, both in Venezuela and throughout the Western Hemisphere, including the total number of beneficiaries reached.

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLE OF VENEZUELA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President is authorized to provide humanitarian assistance to support the people of Venezuela, both in Venezuela and throughout the Western Hemisphere, in accordance with established international humanitarian principles.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that not less than \$150,000,000 is necessary for each of fiscal years 2020 and 2021 to carry out this section.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the President such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2020 and 2021 to carry out this section.

SEC. 6. DEFINITION.

In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means the following:

(A) The Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(B) The Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(C) The Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

(D) The Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(2) VENEZUELAN SECURITY FORCES.—The term “Venezuelan security forces” includes the following:

(A) The Bolivarian National Armed Forces, including the Bolivarian National Guard.

(B) The Bolivarian National Intelligence Service.

(C) The Bolivarian National Police.

(D) The Bureau for Scientific, Criminal and Forensic Investigations of the Ministry of Interior, Justice, and Peace.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIREs) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. ROONEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 854, the Humanitarian Assistance to the Venezuelan People Act of 2019, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this legislation, and I thank Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL for her leadership on this important issue. From her first day as a Member of Congress, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL made it clear that supporting the Venezuelan people and making sure they receive the humanitarian assistance they need would be at the top of her agenda. I am proud to partner with her on this bill.

Over the last few years, we have watched in horror as the Venezuelan economy collapsed and rule of law in that country evaporated. Today, the man-made crisis created by the Chavez-Maduro regime in Venezuela has reached unthinkable levels.

Ninety percent of the Venezuelan population lives in poverty. Earlier this month, the country suffered another massive blow when its electric grid collapsed. This made it impossible to refrigerate food, and some Venezuelans could no longer receive necessary medical treatments.

These tremendous hardships have generated a mass exodus from Venezuela. Almost 10 percent of the population has fled the country over the last 3 years. The United Nations projects that by the end of this year, Venezuelans would make up the largest refugee population in the world.

As suffering is only expected to worsen, Congress must do everything it can to help the people of Venezuela. Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL's legislation addresses the humanitarian crisis in Venezuela head-on by authorizing new funding and requiring that USAID and the State Department develop a humanitarian assistance strategy for the Venezuelan people in Venezuela and throughout the region.

□ 1700

Other countries in the region and particularly our close allies, Colombia, have done so much to open up their hearts and their borders to the Venezuelan refugees. It is important that the United States help ease the burdens on our regional partners, and this bill is an important step forward.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Humanitarian Assistance to the Venezuelan People Act introduced by my colleague from Florida (Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL) and supported enthusiastically by our chairman, ALBIO SIREs.

The humanitarian crisis in Venezuela is unprecedented in our hemisphere and is affecting the entire region. So far, more than 3 million Venezuelans have fled the criminal socialist dictatorship of Maduro, whose mismanagement and repression are creating immense challenges for neighboring communities.

As Chairman SIREs said, there are millions of refugees in Colombia, the United States, and around the world who fled from Venezuelan oppression.

This bill will ensure that we have a long-term strategy for U.S.-led humanitarian assistance to address the crisis so that it is coordinated effectively with local partners to meet the needs of its beneficiaries.

It condemns violent actions by the Maduro regime to block humanitarian aid from entering the country, and it authorizes funding necessary for future humanitarian assistance.

The administration has courageously led the humanitarian effort for the people of Venezuela and has received invaluable support from the Governments of Colombia and Brazil; and, more recently, the Government of the Netherlands has agreed to allow the nearby island of Curacao to be used as a hub to support future humanitarian aid.

The United States and this Congress must remain united in our support for the people of Venezuela in their struggle for freedom and democracy, especially as they struggle to survive without adequate food and basic medicines.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the author of this bill, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL).

Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIREs) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. ROONEY).

Nicolas Maduro is an illegitimate president. As a result of his brutal dictatorship, the Venezuelan people are suffering in one of the worst humanitarian crises in the Western Hemisphere.

Without basic food and medicine, people are starving and dying. As many as 3.4 million Venezuelans have left the country and migrated to neighboring countries, which are having immense difficulty absorbing such high volumes of migrants.

My bill would help alleviate the pain of the Venezuelan people by providing humanitarian assistance in accordance with established international humanitarian principles to those within the country and in the region. It gives Congress the authority to provide as much funding as is necessary to address the crisis in both 2020 and 2021, with no less than \$150 million for each year.

It also requires the State Department and USAID to show the American people the most effective way to coordinate with nongovernmental and international organizations operating throughout the region, and the bill also requires the administration to submit a report to Congress assessing the impact of U.S. humanitarian assistance.

Maduro has proven that he is willing to let his own people suffer and die rather than accept international aid. It is not enough to provide USAID with the funds for this aid. The administration must show that they are strategically trying everything they can to get the aid to the Venezuelan people inside the country, not just leaving it at the border. That is what this bill will achieve.

Finally, the bill expresses Congress' strong condemnation of all violent actions by the Maduro regime and Venezuela's security forces to block and divert humanitarian assistance.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this important legislation.

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, we have no additional speakers.

I would like to thank the author once again, my colleague, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, and my neighbor in the Cannon Building.

I would like to also thank, once again, Chairman SIREs for his leadership in this area, and I enthusiastically encourage everyone in this Congress to support this bill and prepare for the day when we can get aid to the people of Venezuela.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

I would like to once again thank the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL) for her remarkable leadership on this issue, which demonstrates her strong commitment to the Venezuelan people and to her constituents who care so deeply about this issue.

It is crucial that we stand with our partners and allies in the region to provide desperately needed assistance to the Venezuelan people and help relieve the burden that Colombians and Venezuela's other neighbors have taken on over the last few years.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIREs) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 854, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EUROPEAN ENERGY SECURITY AND DIVERSIFICATION ACT OF 2019

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1616) to prioritize the efforts of and enhance coordination among United States agencies to encourage countries in Central and Eastern Europe to diversify their energy sources and supply routes, increase Europe's energy security, and help the United States reach its global energy security goals, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1616

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "European Energy Security and Diversification Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **EARLY-STAGE PROJECT SUPPORT.**—The term "early-stage project support" includes the following:

- (A) Feasibility studies.
- (B) Resource evaluations.
- (C) Project appraisal and costing.
- (D) Pilot projects.

(E) Commercial support, such as trade missions, reverse trade missions, technical workshops, international buyer programs, and international partner searchers to link suppliers to projects.

(F) Technical assistance and other guidance to improve the local regulatory environment and market frameworks to encourage transparent competition and enhance energy security.

(G) Long-term energy sector planning.

(2) **LATE-STAGE PROJECT SUPPORT.**—The term "late-stage project support" includes support described in section 1421 of the Better Utilization of Investments Leading to Development Act of 2018 (also referred to as the "BUILD Act of 2018"; enacted as division F of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-254)).

(3) **INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.**—The term "international financial institution" has the meaning given such term in section 1701(c) of the International Financial Institutions Act (22 U.S.C. 262r(c)).

SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS; STATEMENT OF POLICY.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that the United States has economic and national security interests in assisting European and Eurasian countries achieve energy security through diversification of their energy sources and supply routes.

(b) **STATEMENT OF POLICY.**—It is the policy of the United States to—

(1) advance United States foreign policy and development goals by assisting European

and Eurasian countries to reduce their dependence on energy resources from countries that use energy dependence for undue political influence, such as the Russian Federation, which has used natural gas to coerce, intimidate, and influence other countries;

(2) promote the energy security of European and Eurasian allies and partners of the United States by encouraging the development of accessible, transparent, and competitive energy markets that provide diversified sources, types, and routes of energy;

(3) encourage United States public and private sector investment in European and Eurasian energy infrastructure projects to bridge the gap between energy security requirements and commercial demand in a way that is consistent with the region's absorptive capacity;

(4) help facilitate a well-functioning market for energy resources in a way that benefits the energy security of the United States and European and Eurasian allies and partners of the United States; and

(5) help facilitate the export of United States energy technology and expertise to global markets.

SEC. 4. PRIORITIZATION OF EFFORTS AND ASSISTANCE FOR ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN EUROPE AND EURASIA.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—In pursuing the policy described in section 3(b), the Secretary of State, in coordination with the heads of United States agencies that operate under the foreign policy guidance of the Secretary, shall, as appropriate, prioritize and expedite the efforts of the Department of State and such agencies in supporting the efforts of the European Commission and European and Eurasian countries to increase the energy security of such countries, including through—

(1) providing diplomatic and political support to the European Commission and such countries, as necessary to—

(A) facilitate international negotiations concerning cross-border infrastructure;

(B) enhance Europe's and Eurasia's regulatory environment with respect to energy; and

(C) develop accessible, transparent, and competitive energy markets supplied by diverse sources, types, and routes of energy; and

(2) providing support to improve European and Eurasian energy markets, including early-stage project support and late-stage project support for the construction or improvement of energy infrastructure, as necessary, to—

(A) diversify the energy sources and supply routes of such countries;

(B) enhance energy market integration across the region; and

(C) increase competition within energy markets.

(b) **PROJECT SELECTION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of agencies described in subsection (a), shall identify and, in accordance with paragraph (3), select energy infrastructure projects that would be appropriate for United States assistance under this section.

(2) **PROJECT ELIGIBILITY.**—A project is eligible for United States assistance under this section if such project is—

(A) related to—

(i) natural gas infrastructure, such as interconnectors, storage facilities, liquefied natural gas import facilities, or reverse flow capacity;

(ii) electricity transmission infrastructure, electricity storage projects, or smart grid projects;

(iii) renewable energy projects in wind, solar, tidal, or other forms; or

(iv) the improvement, rehabilitation, or construction of electricity generation facilities to increase the efficiency and reliability of electricity production; and

(B) located in a European or Eurasian country.

(3) **PREFERENCE.**—In selecting among projects that are eligible under paragraph (2), the Secretary of State and the heads of agencies described in subsection (a) shall give preference to projects that—

(A) improve the capacity of energy systems to efficiently transfer gas and electricity within and between European or Eurasian countries;

(B) have already been identified by the European Commission as being integral for the energy security of European or Eurasian countries;

(C) are expected to enhance energy market integration and transparency;

(D) can attract funding from the private sector, an international financial institution, the government of the country in which the project will be carried out, or the European Commission; or

(E) have the potential to use United States goods and services.

(c) **TYPES OF ASSISTANCE.**—

(1) **DIPLOMATIC AND POLITICAL SUPPORT.**—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the heads of agencies described in subsection (a), as appropriate, shall provide diplomatic and political support to the European Commission and European or Eurasian countries, as necessary, including by using the diplomatic and political influence and expertise of the Department of State to build the capacity of such countries to resolve any impediments to the development of projects selected under subsection (b).

(2) **EARLY-STAGE PROJECT SUPPORT.**—The Secretary of State, in coordination, as appropriate, with the heads of agencies described in subsection (a), including the Director of the Trade and Development Agency, shall provide early-stage project support to projects selected under subsection (b), as necessary and in accordance with section 661 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2421).

(3) **LATE-STAGE PROJECT SUPPORT.**—The Secretary of State, in coordination, as appropriate, with the heads of agencies described in subsection (a), shall provide late-stage project support to projects selected under subsection (b), as necessary and in accordance with section 1412 of the Better Utilization of Investments Leading to Development Act (relating to the establishment of the United States International Development Finance Corporation).

(d) **FUNDING.**—

(1) **TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.**—Subparagraph (A) of section 661(f)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2421(f)(1)) is amended by striking "\$48,000,000 for fiscal year 2000" and inserting "\$79,500,000 for fiscal year 2020".

(2) **COUNTERING RUSSIAN INFLUENCE FUND.**—Section 254 of the Countering Russian Influence in Europe and Eurasia Act of 2017 (enacted as title II of the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act; Public Law 115-44; 22 U.S.C. 9543) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking "fiscal years 2018 and 2019" and adding "fiscal years 2020 and 2021"; and

(B) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(7) To assist United States agencies that operate under the foreign policy guidance of the Secretary of State in providing assistance under section 4 of the European Energy Security and Diversification Act of 2019."

(e) **EXCEPTION.**—No United States assistance under this section may be provided to a European or Eurasian country that engages

in a significant transaction described in subsection (a) of section 231 of the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (22 U.S.C. 9525).

SEC. 5. PROGRESS REPORTS.

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter for seven years, the President shall transmit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a report on progress made in providing assistance for projects under section 4 that includes the following:

(1) A description of the energy infrastructure projects the United States has identified for such assistance.

(2) For each such project, the following:

(A) A description of the role of the United States in the project, including in early-stage project support and late-stage project support.

(B) The amount and form of any debt financing and insurance provided by the United States Government for the project.

(C) The amount and form of any early-stage project support.

(D) An update on the progress made on the project as of the date of the report.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIREs) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. ROONEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1616, the European Energy Security and Diversification Act of 2019, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the European Energy Security and Diversification Act of 2019.

I would like to thank my colleagues on the Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. KINZINGER and Mr. KEATING, for introducing this bipartisan legislation.

When we look at the full scope of Vladimir Putin's nefarious behavior throughout the world, we see it take many shapes: insidious attempts to influence democratic elections, incursions into the sovereign territory of other nations, and military exercises designed to intimidate its neighbors.

But this legislation addresses yet another tool in Putin's arsenal: the manipulation of natural resources.

More and more, we see Russia using energy as a weapon to blackmail countries depending on Russian energy sources. The European Union and many of our allies and partners in Europe recognize this threat and have begun to take steps to reduce their vulnerability to Russian pressure.

This bill will ramp up American support for Europe's energy security and reduce dependence on Russia, including financial support for projects that better connect European energy networks and improve energy efficiency.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the European Energy Security and Diversification Act, which the Foreign Affairs Committee adopted unanimously earlier this month.

This bill, sponsored by Mr. KEATING and Mr. KINZINGER, for whom we are deeply thankful, will help European and Eurasian countries reduce their reliance on Russian energy by providing diplomatic, political, technical, and financial support to projects that diversify energy sources and supply routes, enhance energy market integration across the region, and increase competition within the energy markets.

Europe imports nearly 40 percent of its natural gas from Russia. Some EU countries source as much as 100 percent of their gas from Moscow, which has weaponized its energy dominance in the region to coerce, intimidate, and influence the political decisions of countries that depend on it for their energy.

In 2006, 2009, and 2014, Vladimir Putin cut off gas to Ukraine, a country he has tried to dismember through his illegal annexation of Crimea and his continued aggression in the East.

Putin is now trying to build a massive new pipeline to Germany, the Nord Stream 2. This pipeline will increase Russian influence over Berlin, a key NATO ally and the largest economy in the EU, and also reduce Russia's reliance on Ukraine as a vital pipeline transit route to other European markets. This will deprive Ukraine of its critical transit fees, the proceeds of which are roughly equal to what it spends on its military.

It is not hard to see that this is a strategic play by Putin to increase pressure on Ukraine, where he continues to wage a war, and also get closer to Germany and dominate their energy.

This bill isn't just about helping Europe. This bill advances U.S. foreign policy and economic interests by strengthening our alliances with countries in the region and promoting U.S. energy as an appropriate alternative to the bondage of Russia.

The shale revolution and the repeal of the 1970s-era ban on crude oil sales in 2015 have unlocked America's abundant oil and natural gas reserves. These have enabled us to become the world's largest producer of oil and gas—some 13 million barrels a day now—giving our partners and allies a reliable alternative to unstable sources of energy.

We also lead the world in cutting-edge clean energy technologies, one of which, carbon sequester, is very important for the environment as well. Others are like nuclear and renewables, which this bill promotes.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KEATING).

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIREs), the chair of the subcommittee dealing with the very important issue that we are dealing with now in the Western Hemisphere and Venezuela, and I associate myself with his remarks in that regard.

I thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. ROONEY), who has been a strong advocate of energy diversification and renewable energy on the Foreign Affairs Committee, for his support.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1616, which is a bill I introduced with the ranking member, Representative KINZINGER, as well as a bill I sponsored towards the last days of the last Congress with Senator CHRIS MURPHY of Connecticut, showing bipartisan and bicameral support for this effort.

Mr. Speaker, we saw again last weekend with the summary of the Mueller report coming forward just underscoring, once again, the attack that was made on our country by Russia. There is no mistaking it now. There was little mistake, given our intelligence sources at the time.

This is not only a way that Russia is seeking, number one, to attack the democracies of our country, but also to strategically create a wedge with the greatest asset we have, something that they certainly do not have.

□ 1715

That asset is the coalition we have with our European allies. It is one of our greatest strengths, and it is unique to this historic coalition.

One of the ways Russia is continuing to break up this Western coalition and cause great damage, is not just the attacks like they had in the U.S. over their election and democracy, but also wielding energy as a weapon to break up this great coalition we have, hurt democracies in Europe—particularly Eastern Europe and here—undercutting our interest in sharing the values that we have with our greatest allies.

This is something in terms of the energy resources we can't take for granted. We know that this is a time when the U.S. is a great exporter of energy in this world, and it is something that will benefit our economy going forward but will also benefit the diversification of energy in Europe as well, something that will advance their economy, but something also that will give them great protection against this Russian threat.

We also know that it is not just the exporting of this energy that is going to be of value, but this bill also targets renewable energy development as well, and that is something that brings the European countries together with the U.S., and also, together, sets us at a greater stage to compete worldwide.

We can work together exchanging technological advances. We can work together as we share investments in

each other's countries. This is something that will both help the U.S. economy as a major exporter, but also help our growth going forward. So, we need to work more closely. Specifically, this bill authorizes financing for private-sector investments both in energy security projects in the United States and likewise in the trade that will ensue in renewables.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the committee for taking such early action in this Congress. I think it states the priority nature of this, knowing that this is going to be something that enhances European security, our security, enhances our economy and theirs, and seeks to protect us. Because as they talk about projects like Nord Stream 2 in Germany, they are using right now that leverage to create a threat and to isolate countries like Ukraine from their basic energy economic development.

This is important in so many respects. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, showing the leadership of this bipartisan bill, to move it forward quickly.

I also want to recognize, again, Senator MURPHY who has been such a leader of this on the Senate side. It is rare that we have such strong bipartisan support for a bill, as well as bicameral support. Let's go ahead and move this forward today.

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would once again like to thank the authors of this important bill, Mr. KINZINGER and Mr. KEATING, as well as Chairman SIRES for his support, and I am glad to know that Senator MURPHY is on the case as well.

One more time, I would just like to say, if I might, what a terrible idea the Nord Stream 2 pipeline is, and I appreciate the strong comments that Congressman KEATING just made. We should be opposing that, and we should be supporting the Trans-Caucasus pipeline to get more oil into Eastern Europe, away from Russia, and out of the bondage of their control of the pipelines.

So, I would like to thank the authors one more time and encourage all our colleagues to support this important bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I want to thank, again, Mr. KINZINGER and Mr. KEATING for their work on this bill to bolster our allies in the face of Russian pressure.

This is a good measure that addresses Russia's use of energy to exploit and blackmail countries around the world, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIRES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1616, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

MEDICAID SERVICES INVESTMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2019

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1839) to amend title XIX to extend protection for Medicaid recipients of home and community-based services against spousal impoverishment, establish a State Medicaid option to provide coordinated care to children with complex medical conditions through health homes, prevent the misclassification of drugs for purposes of the Medicaid drug rebate program, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1839

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Medicaid Services Investment and Accountability Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF PROTECTION FOR MEDICAID RECIPIENTS OF HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES AGAINST SPOUSAL IMPOVERISHMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2404 of Public Law 111-148 (42 U.S.C. 1396r-5 note), as amended by section 3(a) of the Medicaid Extenders Act of 2019 (Public Law 116-3), is amended by striking "March 31, 2019" and inserting "September 30, 2019".

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—

(1) PROTECTING STATE SPOUSAL INCOME AND ASSET DISREGARD FLEXIBILITY UNDER WAIVERS AND PLAN AMENDMENTS.—Nothing in section 2404 of Public Law 111-148 (42 U.S.C. 1396r-5 note) or section 1924 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r-5) shall be construed as prohibiting a State from disregarding an individual's spousal income and assets under a State waiver or plan amendment described in paragraph (2) for purposes of making determinations of eligibility for home and community-based services or home and community-based attendant services and supports under such waiver or plan amendment.

(2) STATE WAIVER OR PLAN AMENDMENT DESCRIBED.—A State waiver or plan amendment described in this paragraph is any of the following:

(A) A waiver or plan amendment to provide medical assistance for home and community-based services under a waiver or plan amendment under subsection (c), (d), or (i) of section 1915 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396n) or under section 1115 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1315).

(B) A plan amendment to provide medical assistance for home and community-based services for individuals by reason of being determined eligible under section 1902(a)(10)(C) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(10)(C)) or by reason of section 1902(f) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(f)) or otherwise on the basis of a reduction of income based

on costs incurred for medical or other remedial care under which the State disregarded the income and assets of the individual's spouse in determining the initial and ongoing financial eligibility of an individual for such services in place of the spousal impoverishment provisions applied under section 1924 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r-5).

(C) A plan amendment to provide medical assistance for home and community-based attendant services and supports under section 1915(k) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1396n(k)).

SEC. 3. STATE OPTION TO PROVIDE COORDINATED CARE THROUGH A HEALTH HOME FOR CHILDREN WITH MEDICALLY COMPLEX CONDITIONS.

Title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 1945 the following new section:

"SEC. 1945A. STATE OPTION TO PROVIDE COORDINATED CARE THROUGH A HEALTH HOME FOR CHILDREN WITH MEDICALLY COMPLEX CONDITIONS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 1902(a)(1) (relating to statewideness) and section 1902(a)(10)(B) (relating to comparability), beginning October 1, 2022, a State, at its option as a State plan amendment, may provide for medical assistance under this title to children with medically complex conditions who choose to enroll in a health home under this section by selecting a designated provider, a team of health care professionals operating with such a provider, or a health team as the child's health home for purposes of providing the child with health home services.

"(b) HEALTH HOME QUALIFICATION STANDARDS.—The Secretary shall establish standards for qualification as a health home for purposes of this section. Such standards shall include requiring designated providers, teams of health care professionals operating with such providers, and health teams to demonstrate to the State the ability to do the following:

"(1) Coordinate prompt care for children with medically complex conditions, including access to pediatric emergency services at all times.

"(2) Develop an individualized comprehensive pediatric family-centered care plan for children with medically complex conditions that accommodates patient preferences.

"(3) Work in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner with the family of a child with medically complex conditions to develop and incorporate into such child's care plan, in a manner consistent with the needs of the child and the choices of the child's family, ongoing home care, community-based pediatric primary care, pediatric inpatient care, social support services, and local hospital pediatric emergency care.

"(4) Coordinate access to—

"(A) subspecialized pediatric services and programs for children with medically complex conditions, including the most intensive diagnostic, treatment, and critical care levels as medically necessary; and

"(B) palliative services if the State provides such services under the State plan (or a waiver of such plan).

"(5) Coordinate care for children with medically complex conditions with out-of-State providers furnishing care to such children to the maximum extent practicable for the families of such children and where medically necessary, in accordance with guidance issued under subsection (e)(1) and section 431.52 of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations.

"(6) Collect and report information under subsection (g)(1).

"(c) PAYMENTS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—A State shall provide a designated provider, a team of health care professionals operating with such a provider,

or a health team with payments for the provision of health home services to each child with medically complex conditions that selects such provider, team of health care professionals, or health team as the child's health home. Payments made to a designated provider, a team of health care professionals operating with such a provider, or a health team for such services shall be treated as medical assistance for purposes of section 1903(a), except that, during the first 2 fiscal year quarters that the State plan amendment is in effect, the Federal medical assistance percentage applicable to such payments shall be increased by 15 percentage points, but in no case may exceed 90 percent.

“(2) METHODOLOGY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The State shall specify in the State plan amendment the methodology the State will use for determining payment for the provision of health home services. Such methodology for determining payment—

“(i) may be tiered to reflect, with respect to each child with medically complex conditions provided such services by a designated provider, a team of health care professionals operating with such a provider, or a health team, the severity or number of each such child's chronic conditions, life-threatening illnesses, disabilities, or rare diseases, or the specific capabilities of the provider, team of health care professionals, or health team; and

“(ii) shall be established consistent with section 1902(a)(30)(A).

“(B) ALTERNATE MODELS OF PAYMENT.—The methodology for determining payment for provision of health home services under this section shall not be limited to a per-member per-month basis and may provide (as proposed by the State and subject to approval by the Secretary) for alternate models of payment.

“(3) PLANNING GRANTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning October 1, 2022, the Secretary may award planning grants to States for purposes of developing a State plan amendment under this section. A planning grant awarded to a State under this paragraph shall remain available until expended.

“(B) STATE CONTRIBUTION.—A State awarded a planning grant shall contribute an amount equal to the State percentage determined under section 1905(b) (without regard to section 5001 of Public Law 111–5) for each fiscal year for which the grant is awarded.

“(C) LIMITATION.—The total amount of payments made to States under this paragraph shall not exceed \$5,000,000.

“(d) COORDINATING CARE.—

“(1) HOSPITAL NOTIFICATION.—A State with a State plan amendment approved under this section shall require each hospital that is a participating provider under the State plan (or a waiver of such plan) to establish procedures for, in the case of a child with medically complex conditions who is enrolled in a health home pursuant to this section and seeks treatment in the emergency department of such hospital, notifying the health home of such child of such treatment.

“(2) EDUCATION WITH RESPECT TO AVAILABILITY OF HEALTH HOME SERVICES.—In order for a State plan amendment to be approved under this section, a State shall include in the State plan amendment a description of the State's process for educating providers participating in the State plan (or a waiver of such plan) on the availability of health home services for children with medically complex conditions, including the process by which such providers can refer such children to a designated provider, team of health care professionals operating such a provider, or health team for the purpose of establishing a

health home through which such children may receive such services.

“(3) FAMILY EDUCATION.—In order for a State plan amendment to be approved under this section, a State shall include in the State plan amendment a description of the State's process for educating families with children eligible to receive health home services pursuant to this section of the availability of such services. Such process shall include the participation of family-to-family entities or other public or private organizations or entities who provide outreach and information on the availability of health care items and services to families of individuals eligible to receive medical assistance under the State plan (or a waiver of such plan).

“(4) MENTAL HEALTH COORDINATION.—A State with a State plan amendment approved under this section shall consult and coordinate, as appropriate, with the Secretary in addressing issues regarding the prevention and treatment of mental illness and substance use among children with medically complex conditions receiving health home services under this section.

“(e) GUIDANCE ON COORDINATING CARE FROM OUT-OF-STATE PROVIDERS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 1, 2020, the Secretary shall issue (and update as the Secretary determines necessary) guidance to State Medicaid directors on—

“(A) best practices for using out-of-State providers to provide care to children with medically complex conditions;

“(B) coordinating care for such children provided by such out-of-State providers (including when provided in emergency and non-emergency situations);

“(C) reducing barriers for such children receiving care from such providers in a timely fashion; and

“(D) processes for screening and enrolling such providers in the respective State plan (or a waiver of such plan), including efforts to streamline such processes or reduce the burden of such processes on such providers.

“(2) STAKEHOLDER INPUT.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall issue a request for information to seek input from children with medically complex conditions and their families, States, providers (including children's hospitals, hospitals, pediatricians, and other providers), managed care plans, children's health groups, family and beneficiary advocates, and other stakeholders with respect to coordinating the care for such children provided by out-of-State providers.

“(f) MONITORING.—A State shall include in the State plan amendment—

“(1) a methodology for tracking reductions in inpatient days and reductions in the total cost of care resulting from improved care coordination and management under this section;

“(2) a proposal for use of health information technology in providing health home services under this section and improving service delivery and coordination across the care continuum (including the use of wireless patient technology to improve coordination and management of care and patient adherence to recommendations made by their provider); and

“(3) a methodology for tracking prompt and timely access to medically necessary care for children with medically complex conditions from out-of-State providers.

“(g) DATA COLLECTION.—

“(1) PROVIDER REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—In order to receive payments from a State under subsection (c), a designated provider, a team of health care professionals operating with such a provider, or a health team shall report to the State, at such time and in such

form and manner as may be required by the State, the following information:

“(A) With respect to each such provider, team of health care professionals, or health team, the name, National Provider Identification number, address, and specific health care services offered to be provided to children with medically complex conditions who have selected such provider, team of health care professionals, or health team as the health home of such children.

“(B) Information on all applicable measures for determining the quality of health home services provided by such provider, team of health care professionals, or health team, including, to the extent applicable, child health quality measures and measures for centers of excellence for children with complex needs developed under this title, title XXI, and section 1139A.

“(C) Such other information as the Secretary shall specify in guidance.

When appropriate and feasible, such provider, team of health care professionals, or health team, as the case may be, shall use health information technology in providing the State with such information.

“(2) STATE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

“(A) COMPREHENSIVE REPORT.—A State with a State plan amendment approved under this section shall report to the Secretary (and, upon request, to the Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission), at such time and in such form and manner determined by the Secretary to be reasonable and minimally burdensome, the following information:

“(i) Information reported under paragraph (1).

“(ii) The number of children with medically complex conditions who have selected a health home pursuant to this section.

“(iii) The nature, number, and prevalence of chronic conditions, life-threatening illnesses, disabilities, or rare diseases that such children have.

“(iv) The type of delivery systems and payment models used to provide services to such children under this section.

“(v) The number and characteristics of designated providers, teams of health care professionals operating with such providers, and health teams selected as health homes pursuant to this section, including the number and characteristics of out-of-State providers, teams of health care professionals operating with such providers, and health teams who have provided health care items and services to such children.

“(vi) The extent to which such children receive health care items and services under the State plan.

“(vii) Quality measures developed specifically with respect to health care items and services provided to children with medically complex conditions.

“(B) REPORT ON BEST PRACTICES.—Not later than 90 days after a State has a State plan amendment approved under this section, such State shall submit to the Secretary, and make publicly available on the appropriate State website, a report on how the State is implementing guidance issued under subsection (e)(1), including through any best practices adopted by the State.

“(h) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed—

“(1) to require a child with medically complex conditions to enroll in a health home under this section;

“(2) to limit the choice of a child with medically complex conditions in selecting a designated provider, team of health care professionals operating with such a provider, or health team that meets the health home qualification standards established under subsection (b) as the child's health home; or

“(3) to reduce or otherwise modify—

“(A) the entitlement of children with medically complex conditions to early and periodic screening, diagnostic, and treatment services (as defined in section 1905(r)); or

“(B) the informing, providing, arranging, and reporting requirements of a State under section 1902(a)(43).

“(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) CHILD WITH MEDICALLY COMPLEX CONDITIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the term ‘child with medically complex conditions’ means an individual under 21 years of age who—

“(i) is eligible for medical assistance under the State plan (or under a waiver of such plan); and

“(ii) has at least—

“(I) one or more chronic conditions that cumulatively affect three or more organ systems and severely reduces cognitive or physical functioning (such as the ability to eat, drink, or breathe independently) and that also requires the use of medication, durable medical equipment, therapy, surgery, or other treatments; or

“(II) one life-limiting illness or rare pediatric disease (as defined in section 529(a)(3) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360ff(a)(3))).

“(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph shall prevent the Secretary from establishing higher levels as to the number or severity of chronic, life threatening illnesses, disabilities, rare diseases or mental health conditions for purposes of determining eligibility for receipt of health home services under this section.

“(2) CHRONIC CONDITION.—The term ‘chronic condition’ means a serious, long-term physical, mental, or developmental disability or disease, including the following:

“(A) Cerebral palsy.

“(B) Cystic fibrosis.

“(C) HIV/AIDS.

“(D) Blood diseases, such as anemia or sickle cell disease.

“(E) Muscular dystrophy.

“(F) Spina bifida.

“(G) Epilepsy.

“(H) Severe autism spectrum disorder.

“(I) Serious emotional disturbance or serious mental health illness.

“(3) HEALTH HOME.—The term ‘health home’ means a designated provider (including a provider that operates in coordination with a team of health care professionals) or a health team selected by a child with medically complex conditions (or the family of such child) to provide health home services.

“(4) HEALTH HOME SERVICES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘health home services’ means comprehensive and timely high-quality services described in subparagraph (B) that are provided by a designated provider, a team of health care professionals operating with such a provider, or a health team.

“(B) SERVICES DESCRIBED.—The services described in this subparagraph shall include—

“(i) comprehensive care management;

“(ii) care coordination, health promotion, and providing access to the full range of pediatric specialty and subspecialty medical services, including services from out-of-State providers, as medically necessary;

“(iii) comprehensive transitional care, including appropriate follow-up, from inpatient to other settings;

“(iv) patient and family support (including authorized representatives);

“(v) referrals to community and social support services, if relevant; and

“(vi) use of health information technology to link services, as feasible and appropriate.

“(5) DESIGNATED PROVIDER.—The term ‘designated provider’ means a physician (including a pediatrician or a pediatric specialty or subspecialty provider), children’s hospital, clinical practice or clinical group practice, prepaid inpatient health plan or prepaid ambulatory health plan (as defined by the Secretary), rural clinic, community health center, community mental health center, home health agency, or any other entity or provider that is determined by the State and approved by the Secretary to be qualified to be a health home for children with medically complex conditions on the basis of documentation evidencing that the entity has the systems, expertise, and infrastructure in place to provide health home services. Such term may include providers who are employed by, or affiliated with, a children’s hospital.

“(6) TEAM OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS.—The term ‘team of health care professionals’ means a team of health care professionals (as described in the State plan amendment under this section) that may—

“(A) include—

“(i) physicians and other professionals, such as pediatricians or pediatric specialty or subspecialty providers, nurse care coordinators, dietitians, nutritionists, social workers, behavioral health professionals, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech pathologists, nurses, individuals with experience in medical supportive technologies, or any professionals determined to be appropriate by the State and approved by the Secretary;

“(ii) an entity or individual who is designated to coordinate such a team; and

“(iii) community health workers, translators, and other individuals with culturally appropriate expertise; and

“(B) be freestanding, virtual, or based at a children’s hospital, hospital, community health center, community mental health center, rural clinic, clinical practice or clinical group practice, academic health center, or any entity determined to be appropriate by the State and approved by the Secretary.

“(7) HEALTH TEAM.—The term ‘health team’ has the meaning given such term for purposes of section 3502 of Public Law 111-148.”

SEC. 4. EXTENSION OF THE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

Section 223(d)(3) of the Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 (42 U.S.C. 1396a note) is amended by striking “for 2-year demonstration programs under this subsection” and inserting “to conduct demonstration programs under this subsection for 2 years or through June 30, 2019, whichever is longer”.

SEC. 5. ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE MONEY FOLLOWS THE PERSON REBALANCING DEMONSTRATION.

Section 6071(h)(1)(F) of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 1396a note) is amended by striking “\$112,000,000” and inserting “\$132,000,000”.

SEC. 6. PREVENTING THE MISCLASSIFICATION OF DRUGS UNDER THE MEDICAID DRUG REBATE PROGRAM.

(a) APPLICATION OF CIVIL MONEY PENALTY FOR MISCLASSIFICATION OF COVERED OUTPATIENT DRUGS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1927(b)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r-8(b)(3)) is amended—

(A) in the paragraph heading, by inserting “AND DRUG PRODUCT” after “PRICE”; and

(B) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in clause (ii), by striking “; and” at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(ii) in clause (iii), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(iii) in clause (iv), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(iv) by inserting after clause (iv) the following new clause:

“(v) not later than 30 days after the last day of each month of a rebate period under the agreement, such drug product information as the Secretary shall require for each of the manufacturer’s covered outpatient drugs.”; and

(C) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) in clause (ii), by inserting “, including information related to drug pricing, drug product information, and data related to drug pricing or drug product information,” after “provides false information”; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following new clauses:

“(iii) MISCLASSIFIED DRUG PRODUCT OR MISREPORTED INFORMATION.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Any manufacturer with an agreement under this section that knowingly (as defined in section 1003.110 of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation)) misclassifies a covered outpatient drug, such as by knowingly submitting incorrect drug product information, is subject to a civil money penalty for each covered outpatient drug that is misclassified in an amount not to exceed 2 times the amount of the difference between—

“(aa) the total amount of rebates that the manufacturer paid with respect to the drug to all States for all rebate periods during which the drug was misclassified; and

“(bb) the total amount of rebates that the manufacturer would have been required to pay, as determined by the Secretary using drug product information provided by the manufacturer, with respect to the drug to all States for all rebate periods during which the drug was misclassified if the drug had been correctly classified.

“(II) OTHER PENALTIES AND RECOVERY OF UNDERPAID REBATES.—The civil money penalties described in subclause (I) are in addition to other penalties as may be prescribed by law and any other recovery of the underlying underpayment for rebates due under this section or the terms of the rebate agreement as determined by the Secretary.

“(iv) INCREASING OVERSIGHT AND ENFORCEMENT.—Each year the Secretary shall retain, in addition to any amount retained by the Secretary to recoup investigation and litigation costs related to the enforcement of the civil money penalties under this subparagraph and subsection (c)(4)(B)(ii)(III), an amount equal to 25 percent of the total amount of civil money penalties collected under this subparagraph and subsection (c)(4)(B)(ii)(III) for the year, and such retained amount shall be available to the Secretary, without further appropriation and until expended, for activities related to the oversight and enforcement of this section and agreements under this section, including—

“(I) improving drug data reporting systems;

“(II) evaluating and ensuring manufacturer compliance with rebate obligations; and

“(III) oversight and enforcement related to ensuring that manufacturers accurately and fully report drug information, including data related to drug classification.”; and

(iii) in subparagraph (D)—

(I) in clause (iv), by striking “, and” and inserting a comma;

(II) in clause (v), by striking the period and inserting “, and”; and

(III) by inserting after clause (v) the following new clause:

“(vi) in the case of categories of drug product or classification information that were not considered confidential by the Secretary on the day before the date of the enactment of this clause.”

(2) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 1903(i)(10) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b(i)(10)) is amended—

(i) in subparagraph (C)—

(I) by adjusting the left margin so as to align with the left margin of subparagraph (B); and

(II) by striking “, and” and inserting a semicolon;

(ii) in subparagraph (D), by striking “; or” and inserting “; and”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(E) with respect to any amount expended for a covered outpatient drug for which a suspension under section 1927(c)(4)(B)(ii)(II) is in effect; or”.

(B) Section 1927(b)(3)(C)(ii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r–8(b)(3)(C)(ii)) is amended by striking “subsections (a) and (b)” and inserting “subsections (a), (b), (f)(3), and (f)(4)”.

(b) RECOVERY OF UNPAID REBATE AMOUNTS DUE TO MISCLASSIFICATION OF COVERED OUTPATIENT DRUGS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1927(c) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r–8(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) RECOVERY OF UNPAID REBATE AMOUNTS DUE TO MISCLASSIFICATION OF COVERED OUTPATIENT DRUGS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary determines that a manufacturer with an agreement under this section paid a lower per-unit rebate amount to a State for a rebate period as a result of the misclassification by the manufacturer of a covered outpatient drug (without regard to whether the manufacturer knowingly made the misclassification or should have known that the misclassification would be made) than the per-unit rebate amount that the manufacturer would have paid to the State if the drug had been correctly classified, the manufacturer shall pay to the State an amount equal to the product of—

“(i) the difference between—

“(I) the per-unit rebate amount paid to the State for the period; and

“(II) the per-unit rebate amount that the manufacturer would have paid to the State for the period, as determined by the Secretary, if the drug had been correctly classified; and

“(ii) the total units of the drug paid for under the State plan in the period.

“(B) AUTHORITY TO CORRECT MISCLASSIFICATIONS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary determines that a manufacturer with an agreement under this section has misclassified a covered outpatient drug (without regard to whether the manufacturer knowingly made the misclassification or should have known that the misclassification would be made), the Secretary shall notify the manufacturer of the misclassification and require the manufacturer to correct the misclassification in a timely manner.

“(ii) ENFORCEMENT.—If, after receiving notice of a misclassification from the Secretary under clause (i), a manufacturer fails to correct the misclassification by such time as the Secretary shall require, until the manufacturer makes such correction, the Secretary may do any or all of the following:

“(I) Correct the misclassification, using drug product information provided by the manufacturer, on behalf of the manufacturer.

“(II) Suspend the misclassified drug and the drug’s status as a covered outpatient drug under the manufacturer’s national rebate agreement, and exclude the misclassified drug from Federal financial participation in accordance with section 1903(i)(10)(E).

“(III) Impose a civil money penalty (which shall be in addition to any other recovery or penalty which may be available under this section or any other provision of law) for each rebate period during which the drug is misclassified not to exceed an amount equal to the product of—

“(aa) the total number of units of each dosage form and strength of such misclassified drug paid for under any State plan during such a rebate period; and

“(bb) 23.1 percent of the average manufacturer price for the dosage form and strength of such misclassified drug.

“(C) REPORTING AND TRANSPARENCY.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall submit a report to Congress on at least an annual basis that includes information on the covered outpatient drugs that have been identified as misclassified, any steps taken to reclassify such drugs, the actions the Secretary has taken to ensure the payment of any rebate amounts which were unpaid as a result of such misclassification, and a disclosure of expenditures from the fund created in subsection (b)(3)(C)(iv), including an accounting of how such funds have been allocated and spent in accordance with such subsection.

“(ii) PUBLIC ACCESS.—The Secretary shall make the information contained in the report required under clause (i) available to the public on a timely basis.

“(D) OTHER PENALTIES AND ACTIONS.—Actions taken and penalties imposed under this clause shall be in addition to other remedies available to the Secretary including terminating the manufacturer’s rebate agreement for noncompliance with the terms of such agreement and shall not exempt a manufacturer from, or preclude the Secretary from pursuing, any civil money penalty under this title or title XI, or any other penalty or action as may be prescribed by law.”.

(2) OFFSET OF RECOVERED AMOUNTS AGAINST MEDICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 1927(b)(1)(B) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r–8(b)(1)(B)) is amended by inserting “, including amounts received by a State under subsection (c)(4),” after “in any quarter”.

(c) CLARIFYING DEFINITIONS.—Section 1927(k) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r–8(k)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “paragraph (5)” and inserting “paragraph (4)”; and

(2) in paragraph (7)(A)—

(A) by striking “an original new drug application” and inserting “a new drug application” each place it appears;

(B) in clause (i), by striking “(not including any drug described in paragraph (5))” and inserting “, including a drug product approved for marketing as a non-prescription drug that is regarded as a covered outpatient drug under paragraph (4).”;

(C) in clause (ii)—

(i) by striking “was originally marketed” and inserting “is marketed”; and

(ii) by inserting “, unless the Secretary determines that a narrow exception applies (as described in section 447.502 of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation))” before the period; and

(D) in clause (iv)—

(i) by inserting “, including a drug product approved for marketing as a non-prescription drug that is regarded as a covered outpatient drug under paragraph (4),” after “covered outpatient drug”;;

(ii) by inserting “unless the Secretary determines that a narrow exception applies (as described in section 447.502 of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation))” after “under the new drug application”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following new sentence: “Such term also includes a covered outpatient drug that is a biological product

licensed, produced, or distributed under a biologics license application approved by the Food and Drug Administration.”.

(d) EXCLUSION OF MANUFACTURERS FOR KNOWING MISCLASSIFICATION OF COVERED OUTPATIENT DRUGS.—Section 1128(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a–7(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(17) KNOWINGLY MISCLASSIFYING COVERED OUTPATIENT DRUGS.—Any manufacturer or officer, director, agent, or managing employee of such manufacturer that knowingly misclassifies a covered outpatient drug under an agreement under section 1927, knowingly fails to correct such misclassification, or knowingly provides false information related to drug pricing, drug product information, or data related to drug pricing or drug product information.”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act, and shall apply to covered outpatient drugs supplied by manufacturers under agreements under section 1927 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r–8) on or after such date.

SEC. 7. EXTENSION OF THIRD-PARTY LIABILITY PERIOD FOR CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 202(a)(2) of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–67) is amended by striking “90 days” and inserting “100 days”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 8. DENIAL OF FFP FOR CERTAIN EXPENDITURES RELATING TO VACUUM ERECTION SYSTEMS AND PENILE PROSTHETIC IMPLANTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1903(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b(i)) is amended by inserting after paragraph (11) the following:

“(12) with respect to any amounts expended for—

“(A) a vacuum erection system that is not medically necessary; or

“(B) the insertion, repair, or removal and replacement of a penile prosthetic implant (unless such insertion, repair, or removal and replacement is medically necessary); or”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to items and services furnished on or after January 1, 2020.

SEC. 9. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. RUIZ) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1839.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am humbled to rise in support of H.R. 1839, the Medicaid Services Investment and Accountability Act, a bill that will strengthen our healthcare system by putting patients first.

I am an emergency physician, and as a doctor I have treated patients who, because they couldn't afford the care they needed, slipped through the cracks, worsening their quality of life, harming themselves and their families, and sometimes ending up in the emergency department for lifesaving care.

This bill makes five essential reforms to Medicaid that put patients first, helping children and individuals with mental health issues access the care that they need.

The bill's first reform reflects the hard work and tireless efforts of my friend, Representative DINGELL, who has led the fight to extend Medicaid spousal impoverishment protections. Thanks to Representative DINGELL's advocacy, patients will be able to afford treatment and services without bankrupting their spouses.

Without this important protection, families would face a terrible choice between either unnecessary institutionalization or impoverishing themselves to ensure that their loved one receives the care that they need.

I would also like to thank Congressman UPTON for championing this important policy.

Second, my bill would provide additional funds to the successful Money Follows the Person demonstration. This funding will help more individuals transition from institutions to the communities they call home. I wanted to thank Representatives DINGELL and GUTHRIE for their advocacy on behalf of the patients and families who continue to benefit from this successful program.

Third, this bill includes the Advancing Care for Exceptional Kids Act, bipartisan legislation that gives States the flexibility to coordinate the most effective care for children with medically complex needs. The ACE Kids Act would not be possible without the sustained advocacy and hard work of Congresswoman CASTOR.

Representative CASTOR is an incredible advocate for some of our most vulnerable children and their families and has spent years championing this bill. I also want to thank my friend, Representative BILIRAKIS, for continuing to fight to ensure that our sickest kids have access to health homes.

Fourth, this bill contains important program integrity improvements to Medicaid, fixes that will save money and make Medicaid run more efficiently and effectively without sacrificing quality of care for patients.

That includes legislation championed by Representatives SCHRADER and WELCH to crack down on drug companies cheating the Medicaid program by

not paying proper rebates on their drugs. The bill also gives the Department of Health and Human Services the tools it needs to hold ill-intentioned pharmaceutical companies accountable, while ensuring that patients who depend on these drugs continue to have access to them.

Fifth, and finally, this bill extends funding for the Excellence in Mental Health Act, so that people who are struggling with mental health and substance use disorders can continue receiving the treatment they need. The extension will help Congress find a longer-term solution so that this program can continue providing care to the people who need it.

I would like to thank Representative MATSUI for her continued hard work to support this demonstration. In brief, this bipartisan bill strengthens Medicaid by putting patients first. It was the approach I took as a doctor in the emergency department, and one I am continuing to take in Congress.

I know this bill will make our healthcare system stronger and more equitable, and I am proud to lead this critical effort.

I urge my colleagues to support the passage of H.R. 1839, the Medicaid Services Investment and Accountability Act of 2019, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to speak today in support of H.R. 1839, the Medicaid Services Investment and Accountability Act of 2019.

This is a bipartisan Medicaid extenders package that moves forward House priorities with responsible offsets. In fact, this package actually saves the Federal Government \$1 million.

H.R. 1839 includes a new program to improve access to healthcare from medically complex children and reauthorizes important and effective programs that benefit Americans each and every day.

□ 1730

Money Follows the Person is an important program for the State of Texas. This Medicaid demonstration, which was established in 2005, has enabled eligible individuals in States across our Nation to receive long-term care services in their homes or other community settings, rather than an institution such as a nursing home.

While I am disappointed that H.R. 1839 includes only \$20 million to extend this critical program through September instead of through the end of calendar year 2019, I am pleased that the funding for Money Follows the Person was ultimately included in this package.

This bill also includes an extension through September of the protection for Medicaid recipients of home and community-based services against spousal impoverishment program. This program specifically protects married individuals requiring Medicaid-covered

and long-term services and supports to ensure that they do not have to deplete their financial resources or bankrupt themselves in order to become or remain Medicaid-eligible to receive such services. Our seniors are among our most vulnerable citizens, and it is programs such as this that will help protect them from financial ruin.

According to the National Institute of Mental Health, nearly one in five United States adults lives with a mental illness. Programs established to help individuals who are struggling with mental health issues, including the Excellence in Mental Health program, enable States to implement community behavioral health centers to address the needs of their populations. H.R. 1839 extends the Excellence in Mental Health program funding for Oregon and Oklahoma so that they will be on the same financial cycle as other States that are participating in the program.

The ACE Kids Act, which will improve care for children with complex medical needs, is also included in this package. The goal of this legislation is to improve comprehensive care for medically complex children through a State option to create a Medicaid health home specific to children. Health homes have proven effective in improving care coordination in the adult Medicaid population and hold promise for complex pediatric patients.

However, I want to clarify that this legislation is not intended to limit families or their physicians from selecting the provider of choice for medical services. There is nothing in this legislation that restricts the child's family or their physician from deciding who is best qualified as a Medicare provider. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has provided assurances that current freedom of choice rules will apply to new care coordination activity.

As a physician, I know that many children with chronic illnesses have a strong relationship with their physician and with other providers. I want to make certain that this new law will help families coordinate their care without affecting the relationship that families have with their current doctor or other medical care provider or other providers in their communities from whom they may wish to receive care.

This package contains must-pass provisions that will improve access for Medicaid beneficiaries, which is a laudable and important goal. Not only are these provisions imperative, but they are responsibly offset. In fact, this package saves money.

I would particularly like to thank the Energy and Commerce Committee staff, in particular J.P. Paluskiewicz and Caleb Graff, who have spent a significant amount of their lives negotiating this package to get it to the floor.

I support this legislation, and I urge other Members to continue to support this and get the other body to take it up and pass it as well.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI).

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Medicaid Services Investment and Accountability Act of 2019 and the important provisions within this legislation to address mental health and addiction.

Every one of us knows someone who has struggled, is struggling, or will struggle with mental health issues. Whether it is a friend, a neighbor, or a family member, mental illness impacts all of us in some way.

Several years ago, we took a huge step forward to expand access to mental health services in communities across the Nation. The Excellence in Mental Health Act of 2014 was the culmination of years of hard work. At the same time, it was the largest Federal investment toward improving community-based mental healthcare.

That legislation allowed States to establish certified community behavioral health centers to ensure everyone who needs mental health services can receive them. These clinics have expanded mental health and substance use treatments dramatically, increasing access to 24-hour care, and they have been extremely successful in showing us how we can achieve real results in our communities.

Patients can receive medication-assisted treatment at almost every clinic. For many patients and providers, this is the first time that such services have been available in their communities, which are very often in medically underserved areas. Over half of these clinics now offer same-day access to care, which is so critical to those suffering from an acute mental health crisis.

I recently heard from a clinic in Oregon that will lose funding at the end of this week if Congress doesn't act now. This clinic has doubled the amount of time their doctors are able to spend with patients, has been able to hire more staff, and goes to meet patients in the community to better serve the unique needs of this population. We cannot afford to let this progress expire.

For far too long, those with mental illness have been left in the shadows, and mental health prevention and treatment have been left out of our health systems.

The mental health crisis in this country is very personal to me, and I have been fighting for patients and their loved ones for many years. I believe there is a lot we can do better to stop or slow down the hurt and pain patients and families feel when mental health is left unaddressed.

The bill before us today will extend this critical program in two States, Oregon and Oklahoma, until June and is a first step toward funding and expanding the program later this year.

There is a lot more we must do, and I look forward to continuing to work

with my colleague, Representative MARKWAYNE MULLIN, to preserve this vital program.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN), who is the Republican leader of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, to my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, this is really important legislation we are working on today. H.R. 1839, the Medicaid Services Investment and Accountability Act of 2019, includes short-term extensions of several key Medicaid programs that have previously passed the House on a bipartisan basis.

I know our staffs on both sides of the aisle put a lot of time and effort into this, and I thank them all. I especially want to draw attention to Caleb Graff, who brought his own audience with him today in the gallery, his parents and brother. He has worked very hard on this, and we appreciate it.

I thank my chair and colleague, FRANK PALLONE of the Energy and Commerce Committee, for the partnership on this extenders package. Personally, I know a lot of us would have liked to have had these extended programs go out further to give beneficiaries and providers more certainty and more stability, and we will continue to put forth offers in good faith to work across the aisle to fund these critical parts of America's safety net.

However, we are here today up against a deadline, and I am pleased we were able to get at least through June and September, respectively, with these programs.

I am particularly pleased to see this package includes a short-term extension of the Excellence in Mental Health demonstration for my home State of Oregon. Both Oregon and Oklahoma were set to run out of funding at the end of this month, so this money will at least line them up with the other participating States whose funding expires at the end of June.

These eight State demonstration projects have shown promise as a way for community providers to expand access to treatment for mental and behavioral health, including addiction. As we continue our bipartisan work on the opioid crisis, which took more than 70,000 American lives in 2017 alone, Mr. Speaker, our behavioral health centers have the potential to provide real help. I have been encouraged to hear from providers in rural parts of my district, like Wallowa and Klamath Falls, about their success implementing this very program. I look forward to working on a longer term extension in the coming months.

The other Medicaid policies included in this bill are also very important.

The Money Follows the Person program is a demonstration program that helps transition individuals with chronic conditions and disabilities from institutions back into their local communities. That is where they can get the best care.

The so-called spousal impoverishment program protects seniors against the high costs of home and community-based services.

Finally, we are, once again, passing the ACE Kids Act here in the House, which was championed by our former colleague and chairman of the committee, Representative Joe Barton of Texas. It would improve the delivery of care for children with really complex medical conditions.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all our colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bipartisan package of healthcare bills.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to avoid referencing occupants of the gallery.

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR).

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague and friend, Dr. RUIZ, for yielding the time.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of families of children with complex medical needs—and there are many families like this all across America—I rise to urge approval of H.R. 1839, which includes a bill I have been working on for a number of years with my colleagues, including former Representative Joe Barton. It is called the ACE Kids Act.

We drafted the Advancing Care for Exceptional Kids Act a few years ago with a simple but important goal of putting children and their families first. The bill authorizes the creation of cost-saving and time-saving health homes where specialized care is coordinated in a high-quality setting.

Mr. Speaker, the children with complex medical conditions and their families are heroic, like Caroline West in my hometown of Tampa. She has a rare genetic condition, cerebral palsy, and a seizure disorder. She can't walk, and it is very difficult for her to speak, but she attends school part time and enjoys the life of a typical teenager, in many respects.

Lucy Ferlita is the only living person in the United States with early onset myopathy with areflexia, respiratory distress, and dysphagia. Very little is known about this disease, but we know that it is very difficult for her to eat. She has to have a feeding tube, a ventilator to breathe, and nursing care 24 hours a day.

Jaden Velasquez has a congenital heart defect.

Lakota Lockhart has a central nervous system disorder that causes him to not be able to breathe while he sleeps.

I met all of these kids back home in Tampa at St. Joseph's Children's Hospital. St. Joe's has a world-renowned Chronic-Complex Clinic that was started 16 years ago by a compassionate pediatrician, Dr. Daniel Plasencia. This ACE Kids Act is modeled upon their work and the other good work being done at children's hospitals across this country.

The bill provides an incentive for States to establish health homes to

better coordinate care for kids with medical complexities. It also directs HHS to provide guidance to States on best practices.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to adopt this bill with the ACE Kids Act included.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter from a whole host of organizations thanking us for our leadership and for introducing this bipartisan legislation to improve care for children with complex medical conditions.

MARCH 25, 2019.

Hon. CHUCK GRASSLEY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. MICHAEL BENNETT,
Washington, DC.

Hon. KATHY CASTOR,
Washington, DC.

Hon. GUS BILIRAKIS,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ANNA ESHOO,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENS. GRASSLEY AND BENNETT, AND REPS. CASTOR, BILIRAKIS, ESHOO, AND HERRERA BEUTLER: As national organizations committed to children's health, we write in strong support of the "Advancing Care for Exceptional Kids Act of 2019" (ACE Kids Act, S. 317/H.R. 1226), which has been incorporated into the Medicaid Services Investment and Accountability Act of 2019 (H.R. 1839). We thank you for your leadership in introducing this bipartisan legislation to improve care for children with complex medical conditions in the Medicaid program.

Children with complex medical conditions have chronic life-limiting illnesses and disabilities, and often see six or more specialists and a dozen or more physicians. Under the current Medicaid system, parents of children with multiple, life-threatening disabilities struggle to coordinate the complex care of their kids, which often requires travelling to out-of-state providers. The ACE Kids Act works to create a patient-centered, pediatric-focused delivery system for this unique population of children. It is an important step in fixing the current fragmented system for children with complex medical conditions, ensuring ready access to care and reducing the burden on their families.

Under the ACE Kids Act, specially-designed health homes created for children with complex medical conditions will employ national quality standards and coordinate care—both essential to improving overall quality of care. These health homes will include the full range of acute, post-acute and primary care providers, and will focus on outpatient care to ensure children get the care that they need in the most appropriate setting closest to home while reducing unnecessary hospitalizations and emergency room visits. The ACE Kids Act—which is voluntary for states, families and providers—will also help families access the array of outpatient and community services and supports needed by these children.

Providing children with complex medical conditions enrolled in Medicaid the best possible care is a national challenge, and the ACE Kids Act will bring us closer to ensuring these vulnerable children receive the care they need. We are proud to support the ACE Kids Act, and we look forward to working with you to advance this critical legislation this year.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Pediatrics; American Association for Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work; American Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry; The Amer-

ican Board of Pediatrics; American College of Cardiology; American College of Surgeons; American Heart Association; American Physical Therapy Association; American Psychological Association; American Society of Echocardiography; American Thoracic Society; America's Essential Hospitals; Association of American Medical Colleges; Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs; Autism Society of America; Autism Speaks.

Children's Cause for Cancer Advocacy; Children's Hospital Association; ChildServe; Epilepsy Foundation; Family Voices; March of Dimes; Maxim Healthcare Services; Mended Little Hearts; Moms Rising; National Association for Children's Behavioral Health; National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners; National Board for Certified Counselors; National Down Syndrome Society; Pediatric Congenital Heart Association; Tricare for Kids Coalition; Vizient.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON), who is the former chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee and the author of the Cures for the 21st Century bill.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bipartisan legislation.

I just want to remark briefly to my colleague from Florida (Ms. CASTOR) that the ACE Kids bill was a very important bill that we worked on actually for three Congresses. Joe Barton and the gentlewoman did a marvelous job. We didn't quite get it done. We passed it in this House with more than 400 votes in the last Congress. At the end, the Senate just didn't take it up.

It is very important that it is included as part of this bipartisan package, which we hope is early enough that we can get the Senate to act and pass it, because it really does impact families that are in much need.

I also am happy that we are moving this comprehensive bill today because it does contain a variety of important extensions. All of them had hearings and a lot of bipartisan support from the very first. This includes protections against spousal impoverishment for those seniors who have a spouse who is receiving home-based long-term care under Medicaid.

Back in 2010, we temporarily mandated these protections for home care, but that mandate was set to expire at the end of this very week, so it has to be extended.

Last year, my good friend and colleague, Mrs. DINGELL, and I introduced a bill to make the spousal impoverishment protections permanent, and we worked hard to get that done and passed here in this House. But at the end, even though we worked tirelessly on this, we got only a temporary extension. That is why it expires the end of this week.

This bill doesn't permanently extend it like we had hoped last year, but it does give a reprieve by extending the protection until the end of this year, so, in essence, a 9-month extension. It is my hope that we can use the time to actually pass a permanent extension.

I particularly commend the work of my colleague, Mrs. DINGELL from the

great State of Michigan, for her passion on this, to make sure that we can get it done. I applaud the Speaker for getting it scheduled on the House floor early so that we can get it done, hopefully, this week, and the Senate can concur. Then let's use the time to really make it permanent, to help these families that otherwise will have funds taken out, as this really does rely on Medicaid, to a large degree.

□ 1745

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL).

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from California for his leadership on this issue and for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 1839, the Medicaid Services Investment and Accountability Act.

This bill includes two provisions that are very important to seniors and the disabled. It makes improvements, but, as you have heard my other colleagues talk about, not enough and not for long enough.

First of all, it has a provision that I worked on with my colleague, Mr. UPTON, that extends the spousal impoverishment protections for seniors in Medicaid through the end of the fiscal year. These critical protections ensure that individuals are not forced to spend down almost all of their resources and potentially go bankrupt to get the care that they need. No American should be forced into poverty just to receive adequate healthcare.

In addition, this bill contains a provision that I worked on with my colleague, Mr. GUTHRIE, to extend the highly successful Money Follows the Person program, again, just through the end of the fiscal year. This program provides grants to States to help individuals voluntarily transition from an institutional setting to a community care setting, their own home. All Americans, regardless of income, deserve to receive long-term care in a setting that they prefer.

While I am pleased that these programs will be extended through the end of September and not allowed to lapse—and that is critical—this is only a partial victory. Both the Money Follows the Person program and spousal impoverishment protections need to be extended for the long term, not a few months at a time. We keep doing that. It was 3 months ago that we just extended it for 3 months.

Seniors and individuals with disabilities need to have security. They need to know and have peace of mind that these important provisions are going to be there for the long term. And States need stability and certainty in order to fully implement these efforts.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE), a valuable member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Republican leader of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1839, which extends the important Medicaid Money Follows the Person program until September.

The Medicaid Money Follows the Person program allows certain Medicaid beneficiaries, such as the elderly or individuals with disabilities, to transition from a healthcare facility to receiving care in their own homes. It does not force patients to leave a facility if they don't want to.

Since the Money Follows the Person program was created over a decade ago, it has successfully helped over 88,000 individuals receive care in their own homes.

I have worked with Congresswoman DEBBIE DINGELL on the bipartisan EMPOWER Care Act, which extends the Medicaid Money Follows the Person program for 5 years.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1839 to extend the program until September, and I will continue to work with Congresswoman DINGELL to get the EMPOWER Act across the finish line.

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I am ready to close.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill, H.R. 1839. I really thank all the Members who put their heart and soul into their pieces of legislation. I thank the staff of the Energy and Commerce Committee, both Democratic and Republican, who have come together to work to plug a hole, to fill in the cracks, and to make sure that services continue, that value is given, and that healthcare puts our patients first, our kids first, so that we can give them the appropriate care that they deserve, no matter where they are from or whether or not they can afford it.

This is why I am so humbled to carry the water on this bill. On behalf of myself, my staff, and my office, I thank everybody involved in this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bipartisan bill, H.R. 1839, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, this is an important bill, and I urge all Members to support it.

Once again, I want to single out and thank J.P. Paluskiewicz and Caleb Graff for really moving heaven and earth to get this to the floor so that these valuable programs do not lapse.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my support for H.R. 1839, the Medicaid Services Investment and Accountability Act of 2019.

This bill would extend programs that help seniors and people with disabilities live in the community, rather than institutions. It would extend the authorization of the Excellence in Mental Health demonstration so that none of the participating states run out of critical funds. It would authorize additional program integrity measures in the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program and in other areas of the Medicaid program. Finally, it would provide states with the

option to provide coordinated care for children with medically complex conditions.

As representatives of Americans from all corners of our country, we have a responsibility to protect and enhance Medicaid, a vital safety net program that finances the delivery of care to 69 million people in this country. Without this program, the quality and access of healthcare for our most vulnerable populations will be at risk. We must ensure that future generations are able to receive the necessary health benefits to live full and prosperous lives.

On behalf of the over four and a half million Medicaid beneficiaries in my home state of Texas, I am proud to support the Medicaid Services Investment and Accountability Act of 2019.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. RUIZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1839, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 52 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LOWENTHAL) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 1616, by the yeas and nays; and H.R. 1839, de novo.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, any remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

EUROPEAN ENERGY SECURITY AND DIVERSIFICATION ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfin-

ished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1616) to prioritize the efforts of and enhance coordination among United States agencies to encourage countries in Central and Eastern Europe to diversify their energy sources and supply routes, increase Europe's energy security, and help the United States reach its global energy security goals, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIRE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 391, nays 24, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 126]

YEAS—391

Adams	Cook	Graves (GA)
Aderholt	Cooper	Graves (LA)
Aguilar	Correa	Graves (MO)
Allred	Costa	Green (TN)
Amodei	Courtney	Green (TX)
Armstrong	Cox (CA)	Grothman
Arrington	Craig	Guest
Axne	Crawford	Guthrie
Babin	Crenshaw	Haaland
Bacon	Crist	Hagedorn
Baird	Crow	Harder (CA)
Balderson	Cuellar	Hartzler
Banks	Cummings	Hastings
Barr	Cunningham	Hayes
Barragán	Curtis	Heck
Bass	Davidson (KS)	Hern, Kevin
Beatty	Davidson (OH)	Herrera Beutler
Bera	Davis (CA)	Hice (GA)
Bergman	Davis, Rodney	Higgins (LA)
Beyer	Dean	Higgins (NY)
Bishop (GA)	DeFazio	Hill (AR)
Bishop (UT)	DeGette	Hill (CA)
Blumenauer	DeLauro	Himes
Blunt Rochester	DelBene	Holding
Bonamici	Delgado	Hollingsworth
Bost	Demings	Horn, Kendra S.
Boyle, Brendan	DeSaulnier	Horsford
F.	DesJarlais	Houlahan
Brady	Deutch	Hoyer
Brindisi	Diaz-Balart	Hudson
Brooks (IN)	Dingell	Huffman
Brown (MD)	Doggett	Huizenga
Brownley (CA)	Doyle, Michael	Hunter
Buchanan	F.	Hurd (TX)
Bucshon	Duffy	Jackson Lee
Budd	Emmer	Jayapal
Burgess	Engel	Jeffries
Bustos	Escobar	Johnson (GA)
Butterfield	Eshoo	Johnson (OH)
Byrne	Espallat	Johnson (SD)
Calvert	Estes	Johnson (TX)
Carbajal	Evans	Joyce (OH)
Cárdenas	Fitzpatrick	Joyce (PA)
Carson (IN)	Fleischmann	Kaptur
Carter (GA)	Fletcher	Katko
Carter (TX)	Flores	Keating
Cartwright	Fortenberry	Kelly (IL)
Case	Foster	Kelly (MS)
Casten (IL)	Fox (NC)	Kelly (PA)
Castor (FL)	Frankel	Khanna
Castro (TX)	Fudge	Kildee
Chabot	Fulcher	Kilmer
Cheney	Gabbard	Kim
Chu, Judy	Gallagher	Kind
Ciilline	Gallego	King (IA)
Cisneros	Garamendi	King (NY)
Clark (MA)	Garcia (IL)	Kinzinger
Clarke (NY)	Garcia (TX)	Kirkpatrick
Clay	Gianforte	Krishnamoorthi
Cleaver	Gibbs	Kuster (NH)
Clyburn	Gohmert	Kustoff (TN)
Cohen	Golden	LaHood
Cole	Gomez	LaMalfa
Collins (GA)	Gonzalez (OH)	Lamb
Collins (NY)	Gonzalez (TX)	Lamborn
Comer	Gooden	Langevin
Conaway	Gottheimer	Larsen (WA)
Connolly	Granger	Larson (CT)

Latta	Panetta	Soto
Lawrence	Pappas	Spanberger
Lawson (FL)	Pascrell	Spano
Lee (CA)	Payne	Stanton
Lee (NV)	Pence	Stauber
Lesko	Perlmutter	Stefanik
Levin (CA)	Peters	Steil
Levin (MI)	Peterson	Stevens
Lewis	Phillips	Stewart
Lieu, Ted	Pingree	Stivers
Lipinski	Pocan	Suozi
Loeb	Posey	Swalwell (CA)
Lofgren	Pressley	Takano
Long	Price (NC)	Taylor
Lowenthal	Quigley	Thompson (CA)
Lowey	Raskin	Thompson (MS)
Lucas	Ratcliffe	Thompson (PA)
Luetkemeyer	Reed	Thornberry
Lujan	Reschenthaler	Timmons
Luria	Rice (NY)	Tipton
Lynch	Richmond	Titus
Malinowski	Riggleman	Tlaib
Maloney,	Roby	Tonko
Carolyn B.	Rodgers (WA)	Torres (CA)
Maloney, Sean	Roe, David P.	Torres Small
Marchant	Rogers (AL)	(NM)
Marshall	Rogers (KY)	Trahan
Mast	Rooney (FL)	Trone
Matsui	Rose (NY)	Turner
McAdams	Rose, John W.	Underwood
McBath	Rouda	Upton
McCarthy	Rouzer	Van Drew
McCauley	Roybal-Allard	Vargas
McCollum	Ruiz	Veasey
McEachin	Ruppersberger	Vela
McGovern	Rutherford	Visclosky
McHenry	Ryan	Wagner
McKinley	Sánchez	Walberg
McNerney	Scalise	Walden
Meeks	Scanlon	Walker
Meng	Schakowsky	Walorski
Meuser	Schiff	Waltz
Miller	Schneider	Wasserman
Mitchell	Schrader	Schultz
Moolenaar	Schrier	Waters
Mooney (WV)	Schweikert	Watkins
Moore	Scott (VA)	Watson Coleman
Morelle	Scott, Austin	Weber (TX)
Moulton	Scott, David	Webster (FL)
Mucarsel-Powell	Sensenbrenner	Welch
Murphy	Serrano	Wenstrup
Nadler	Sewell (AL)	Westerman
Napolitano	Shalala	Wexton
Neal	Sherman	Wild
Neguse	Sherrill	Williams
Newhouse	Shimkus	Wilson (FL)
Norcross	Simpson	Wittman
Norman	Sires	Womack
Nunes	Slotkin	Woodall
O'Halleran	Smith (MO)	Wright
Ocasio-Cortez	Smith (NE)	Yarmuth
Olson	Smith (NJ)	Yoho
Palazzo	Smith (WA)	Young
Pallone	Smucker	Zeldin

NAYS—24

Allen	Duncan	Massie
Amash	Ferguson	McClintock
Biggs	Gaetz	Meadows
Brooks (AL)	Gosar	Palmer
Buck	Griffith	Perry
Burchett	Harris	Rice (SC)
Cline	Jordan	Roy
Cloud	Loudermilk	Steube

NOT VOTING—16

Abraham	Johnson (LA)	Sarbanes
Bilirakis	Kennedy	Speier
Davis, Danny K.	Mullin	Velázquez
Dunn	Omar	Wilson (SC)
Finkenauer	Porter	
Grijalva	Rush	

□ 1859

Messrs. CLINE, BUCK, FERGUSON, MEADOWS, DUNCAN, and BURCHETT changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Messrs. OLSON, WRIGHT, and YOHO changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: “A bill to prioritize the efforts of and enhance coordination among United States agencies to encourage countries in Europe and Eurasia to diversify their energy sources and supply routes, increase energy security in the region, and help the United States reach its global energy security goals, and for other purposes.”.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. FINKENAUER. Mr. Speaker, as a result of a cancelled flight and circumstances out of my control, I was unable to cast a vote on March 25, 2019 on a bill under suspension of the rules. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on H.R. 1616.

MEDICAID SERVICES INVESTMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 1839) to amend title XIX to extend protection for Medicaid recipients of home and community-based services against spousal impoverishment, establish a State Medicaid option to provide coordinated care to children with complex medical conditions through health homes, prevent the misclassification of drugs for purposes of the Medicaid drug rebate program, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. RUIZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 7, PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. 124, OPPOSING BAN ON TRANSGENDER MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES

Mrs. TORRES of California, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-19) on the resolution (H. Res. 252) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 124) expressing opposition to banning service in the Armed Forces by openly transgender individuals.

REQUEST TO CONSIDER H.R. 962, BORN-ALIVE ABORTION SURVIVORS PROTECTION ACT

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 962, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CASTEN of Illinois). Under guidelines consistently issued by successive Speakers, as recorded in section 956 of the House Rules and Manual, the Chair is constrained not to entertain the request unless it has been cleared by the bipartisan floor and committee leaderships.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, if this unanimous consent request cannot be entertained, I urge the Speaker and the Majority Leader to immediately schedule the Born-Alive bill so we can stand up and protect the sanctity of human life, and I would ask all of us to join in that request.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has not been recognized for debate.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on additional motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

RUSSIAN-VENEZUELAN THREAT MITIGATION ACT

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1477) to require a threat assessment and strategy to counter Russian influence in Venezuela, an assessment of foreign acquisition of CITGO assets in the United States, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1477

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Russian-Venezuelan Threat Mitigation Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The Russian Federation’s increased presence in the Western Hemisphere is of concern to the United States and our allies in the region.

(2) In December 2018, the Russian Federation sent two Tu-160 nuclear-capable bombers to Venezuela for joint exercises with the Venezuelan military. The Tu-160 can carry conventional or nuclear-tipped cruise missiles with an estimated maximum range of around 3,000 miles.

(3) Russian and Venezuelan forces took part in a joint 10-hour exercise across the

Caribbean in December 2018 with the Tu-160 nuclear-capable bombers.

(4) Nicolas Maduro and his regime have turned to the Russian Federation, one of its strongest political allies, for financial support during its current economic crisis and to counter international support for Juan Guaido.

(5) In January 2018, Russia sent contractors linked to the Wagner Group to provide security for Nicolas Maduro.

(6) Nicolas Maduro secured loans from the Russian Federation to be repaid through future oil exports, but fell behind on those payments in 2017. News reports in December 2018 suggest that Russian State oil company Rosneft has lent Venezuelan state oil company Petroleos de Venezuela (PdVSA) \$6.5 billion partly as prepayment for crude oil, \$3.1 billion of which remained outstanding as of the end of September 2018.

(7) In 2016, PdVSA secured a \$1.5 billion loan from Rosneft, and PdVSA used 49.9 percent of its shares in United States-based and Venezuelan-owned company CITGO as collateral. A Venezuelan default could lead to potential Russian ownership of United States energy infrastructure.

(8) At the conclusion of a 3-day visit to Moscow in December 2018, Maduro announced \$6 billion worth of Russian investment pledges focused on the oil and mining sectors as well as the export of 600,000 tons of Russian wheat to Venezuela to cover its 2019 needs.

SEC. 3. THREAT ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGY TO COUNTER RUSSIAN INFLUENCE IN VENEZUELA.

(a) **THREAT ASSESSMENT.**—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees an assessment on Russian-Venezuelan security cooperation and the potential threat such cooperation poses to the United States and countries in the Western Hemisphere.

(b) **STRATEGY.**—Not later than 30 days after the submission of the threat assessment required under subsection (a), the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a strategy to counter threats identified in such assessment from Russian-Venezuelan cooperation.

(c) **FORM.**—The threat assessment required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

(d) **DEFINITION.**—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

SEC. 4. ASSESSMENT OF FOREIGN ACQUISITION OF CITGO ASSETS IN THE UNITED STATES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall transmit to the appropriate congressional committees an assessment of the national security risks posed by potential Russian acquisition of CITGO's United States energy infrastructure holdings.

(b) **DEFINITION.**—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Banking of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking of the Senate.

SEC. 5. ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—An alien who the Secretary of State or the Secretary of Homeland

Security (or a designee of one of such Secretaries) knows, or has reason to believe, is an alien who is acting or has acted on behalf of the Russian Government in direct support of the Venezuelan security forces is—

- (1) inadmissible to the United States;
- (2) ineligible to receive a visa or other documentation to enter the United States; and
- (3) otherwise ineligible to be admitted or paroled into the United States or to receive any other benefit under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

(b) **CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The issuing consular officer, the Secretary of State, or the Secretary of Homeland Security (or a designee of one of such Secretaries) shall, in accordance with section 221(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)), revoke any visa or other entry documentation issued to an alien described in subsection (a) regardless of when the visa or other entry documentation is issued.

(2) **EFFECT OF REVOCATION.**—A revocation under paragraph (1) shall—

- (A) take effect immediately; and
- (B) automatically cancel any other valid visa or entry documentation that is in the alien's possession.

(c) **EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT OR FOR NATIONAL SECURITY REASONS.**—

(1) **INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.**—This section shall not apply to an alien if admitting the alien into the United States is necessary to permit the United States to comply with—

(A) the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the United States; or

(B) other applicable international obligations of the United States.

(2) **NATIONAL SECURITY.**—The President may waive the application of this section to an alien if the President—

(A) determines that such a waiver is in the national interest of the United States; and

(B) transmits to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations a notice of and justification for such waiver.

(d) **TERMINATION.**—This section shall terminate on the earlier of—

(1) the date that is one year after the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(2) the date on which the President certifies to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate that the Government of Venezuela has returned to a democratic form of government with respect for the essential elements of representative democracy as set forth in Article 3 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter.

(e) **DEFINITION.**—In this subsection, the term “Venezuelan security forces” includes the following:

- (1) The Bolivarian National Armed Forces, including the Bolivarian National Guard.
- (2) The Bolivarian National Intelligence Service.
- (3) The Bolivarian National Police.
- (4) The Bureau for Scientific, Criminal and Forensic Investigations of the Ministry of Interior, Justice, and Peace.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. ROONEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on H.R. 1477, the Russian-Venezuelan Threat Mitigation Act, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1477.

I thank Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ for authoring this bipartisan bill, and I am proud to bring it to the floor. I appreciate the Congresswoman's tireless leadership on Venezuela day in and day out, particularly at such a difficult moment for that country.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ has the largest Venezuelan American constituency in the country and works nonstop on behalf of her constituents in supporting the Venezuelan people.

Russia's unwavering commitment to Nicolas Maduro should not come as a surprise to any of us. This is part of Putin's larger aspirations for global reach and influence and Putin knows the importance of having a loyal Russian ally in South America.

In recent years, Russia has increased its support for the Venezuelan security forces. Just a few months ago, Russia sent two nuclear capable bombers to Venezuela for a training exercise.

Just yesterday, two Russian military aircraft landed near Caracas reportedly carrying 100 Russian troops.

This legislation responds to the increasing security relationship between the Maduro regime and the Kremlin. Specifically, it requires the State Department to provide a threat assessment of Russian influence in Venezuela and its impact on the United States and our allies in the region and a strategy for the United States to counter this threat. It also requires the President to monitor the risk of any foreign acquisition of CITGO assets in the United States.

Finally, it puts into place visa bans on individuals working on behalf of the Russian Government in direct support of the Venezuelan security forces. In short, this legislation takes a crucial step in restricting Maduro's access to financial, political, and military support from Vladimir Putin.

Congress must pass this legislation to continue to squeeze Nicolas Maduro and his repressive regime.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, March 14, 2019.

Hon. JERROLD NADLER,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing to you concerning H.R. 1477, Russian-Venezuelan Threat Mitigation Act.

I appreciate your willingness to work cooperatively on this legislation. I recognize that the bill contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary. I acknowledge that the Committee will not seek a referral of or formally consider H.R. 1477 and agree that the inaction of your Committee with respect to the bill does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the matters contained in H.R. 1477 which fall within your Committee's Rule X jurisdiction.

I will ensure that our exchange of letters is included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work with you as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

ELIOT L. ENGEL,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, March 20, 2019.

Hon. ELIOT L. ENGEL,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is to advise you that the Committee on the Judiciary has now had an opportunity to review the provisions in H.R. 1477, the "Russian-Venezuelan Threat Mitigation Act of 2019," that fall within our Rule X jurisdiction. I appreciate your consulting with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee has no objection to your including them in the bill for consideration on the House floor, and to expedite that consideration is willing to waive sequential referral, with the understanding that we do not thereby waive any future jurisdictional claim over those provisions or their subject matters.

In the event a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation is convened, the Judiciary Committee reserves the right to request an appropriate number of conferees to address any concerns with these or similar provisions that may arise in conference.

Please place this letter into the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our committees.

Sincerely,

JERROLD NADLER,
Chairman.

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Russian-Venezuelan Threat Mitigation Act introduced by our colleagues from Florida, Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and Congressman DIAZ-BALART. I also want to thank Congressman MALINOWSKI for his leadership in bringing this to the floor right now.

I am also deeply concerned about Russia's continued support for the Socialist and criminal dictatorship of Nicolas Maduro and the threat that this relationship poses to the national security of the United States and the rest of the countries in the Western Hemisphere.

Russia has invested over \$16 billion in Venezuela and has provided billions in military equipment to that murderous regime.

In December of last year Russia sent two nuclear-capable bombers to con-

duct joint exercises with the Venezuelan military. In January of this year, he sent mercenaries to help protect Maduro—this is Mr. Putin doing that. Just this last weekend, as Congressman MALINOWSKI referred to, we saw a report of about 100 additional Russian troops landing in Venezuela.

Russia continues to finance the regime through billions of dollars in investments and is directly aiding the Maduro regime's efforts to bypass U.S. sanctions. There is also a great concern over the potential acquisition of a U.S.-based oil company, CITGO, which has refineries in Corpus Christi and Lake Charles by the Russian oil company, Rosneft, which has a collateral position of about half of its equity.

The bill requires that the State Department provide Congress with an assessment of the threat that the Russia-Venezuela relationship poses to U.S. national security and a strategy to combat that threat.

The bill also requires the specific assessment of the threat posed by a potential acquisition of the oil infrastructure I referred to, CITGO, by their debtor, Russian state oil company Rosneft.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill, and I urge all of our colleagues to join us in standing against Russia's continued support for the Maduro regime and the threat it poses to U.S. national security.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), the author of this bill.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for yielding and for his leadership on the Foreign Affairs Committee. His expertise, having been elected to Congress in November, is welcomed.

It is really wonderful to be able to join him on the floor of the House of Representatives to make sure that we continue to voice our support for democracy to be restored in Venezuela and mitigate the threat that Maduro's regime poses to all of us in the Western Hemisphere.

I also extend my thanks to Mr. ENGEL, the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, and Mr. MCCAUL, the ranking member, both of whom have really come together with the bills that were adopted earlier, and with this one, to make sure that it is demonstrated very clearly that there is no daylight in the United States when it comes to the issue of making sure that we can restore democracy to Venezuela.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Venezuela are suffering right now under the rule of a brutal despot, Nicolas Maduro. The widespread starvation, economic devastation, and public health crisis he has inflicted on his own people has been absolutely heartbreaking to witness. I

saw this tragedy up close when my colleague, Representative DONNA SHALALA, and I traveled to the Colombian-Venezuelan border earlier this month.

The stories we heard and what we saw was gut-wrenching: easily avoidable medical tragedies; blockaded humanitarian aid; and because of a lack of access to vaccines, the rampant spread of disease cured long ago. We witnessed these tragic realities firsthand.

I also hear these horrific experiences from my own friends and neighbors when I return to my hometown of Weston, affectionately known in south Florida and around the world, quite frankly, as Westonzuela.

It is no surprise that this cruel regime has very few friends. Not surprisingly, one of them is the Kremlin. That is why the Russia-Venezuelan Threat Mitigation Act is so urgently needed. This bill would require the State Department to provide a crucial threat assessment of Russia's influence in Venezuela.

Just this weekend, we saw media reports that more Russian military officials continue to arrive in Venezuela. According to the latest reports, planes brought in Russian cargo, advisers, and officials to train the same Venezuelan military apparatus that is keeping Maduro in power. This is just the latest attempt in a long-running push by Vladimir Putin to prop up this brutal autocrat.

In December, the Russian Federation sent two Tu-160 nuclear-capable bombers to Venezuela for joint exercises. The Tu-160 can carry conventional or nuclear-tipped cruise missiles with an estimated maximum range of around 3,000 miles. That same month, Russian and Venezuelan forces took part in a joint 10-hour exercise across the Caribbean with these Tu-160 nuclear-capable bombers.

This menacing Kremlin influence creates not only a hurdle to restoring a functioning, legitimate democracy to the people of Venezuela, but it also poses an imminent military threat to the entire Western Hemisphere. We not only need a detailed assessment of what kind of threat this poses but a strategy for dealing with it. Under this bill, the State Department would be required to deliver both essential diplomatic tools to Congress.

Our goal, regardless of party, is to allow for the peaceful transition to Venezuela's rightful leader, interim President Juan Guaido, and for the peaceful execution of free and fair elections. That will not happen soon enough, so long as Putin troops are helping prop up Maduro's bloody regime.

Another invaluable crutch the Kremlin has handed Maduro is pipelined through the embattled nation's oil supply. As his people suffer and protest all around him, Maduro survives inside an oil-soaked cocoon that the Russian Federation provides to his regime.

Maduro secures these lifeline loans by promising to repay the Russians with future oil exports. But amid Venezuela's economic crisis, Maduro, not surprisingly, fell behind on those payments, reports indicate, beginning in 2017. News reports suggest that the Russian state oil company Rosneft lent the Venezuelan state oil company billions of dollars, partly as a prepayment for its crude oil.

Those oily tentacles are another reason why the Russia-Venezuelan Threat Mitigation Act is so vital. This bill would also require the President to give Congress an assessment of the security risks posed by any potential Russian acquisition of the U.S. energy infrastructure holdings of CITGO, which is owned by Venezuela. By monitoring the CITGO acquisition risks, we monitor one of Maduro's vital veins of sustenance.

Finally, what this bill would also do is allow the United States to use the diplomatic tools of travel to discourage further Russian-Venezuelan military entanglements. It would block travel to the United States by anyone who is acting or has acted on behalf of the Russian Government in direct support of the Venezuelan security forces.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, except in rare circumstances, this bill would allow for a ban and immediate revocation of visas from anyone working on behalf of the Russian Government to directly bolster the Venezuelan security forces.

Right now, the people of Venezuela are enduring an unimaginable onslaught of hunger, preventable medical dangers, and dire escalating economic pain. We cannot stand idly by while Putin assists Maduro in carrying out this inhumane and barbaric tragedy.

The Russian-Venezuelan Threat Mitigation Act will make it harder for the Kremlin to outfit Maduro with weapons of oppression. This bill will also allow the United States to monitor and minimize the threat that Russia poses to the entire region.

Restoring democracy to Venezuela will not happen overnight. No single action alone could bring it about. But combined with the strong humanitarian aid and military export bills my colleagues have crafted that have passed on the floor tonight, the Russian-Venezuelan Threat Mitigation Act will provide part of the comprehensive solution this all-encompassing tragedy needs.

The Venezuelan people, including my friends and neighbors back home, desperately need this relief.

Mr. Speaker, I have heard real stories of neighbors and friends standing in front of me, describing the Maduro regime's confiscation of their businesses, just coming in one day and taking over everything. They have wrought devastation

across that land. Venezuela was once a vibrant, rich, successful democracy that he has driven into the ground for his own enrichment.

We can help bring this to an end through bills like the Russian-Venezuelan Threat Mitigation Act.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for their support of this critical legislation.

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would once again like to thank my colleagues for the three bipartisan bills on Venezuela that have been considered by this House today.

This is one issue where all Members of Congress, regardless of party or background, should stand together with the people of Venezuela and support interim President Guaido's efforts to bring free and fair elections to the country.

The criminal socialist dictatorship of Nicolas Maduro has driven Venezuela to ruin. He is clinging to power by repressing the people of Venezuela while surrounding himself with foreign forces from Cuba and Russia.

Millions of Venezuelans have fled the dangerous and deteriorating circumstances at home, as Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ mentioned about Weston. We also know about other places in west Miami where the Venezuelans, fortunately, are adding value to our economy now.

They have created burdens and instability far beyond Venezuela's border. The average Venezuelan has lost 20 kilos in the last 2 years. These people are starving to death under a repression that hasn't been seen since Ceausescu's Romania or Stalin's Russia.

Congress should support the administration's efforts to bring democracy and prosperity back to Venezuela, and these bills demonstrate our support for the values of freedom and liberty that the Venezuelan people desire and deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support H.R. 1477, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, I would once again like to thank Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ for authoring this important legislation and for her leadership on behalf of the Venezuelan people.

As we all know, Vladimir Putin is seeking to expand Russia's nefarious influence in many parts of the world, always against democracy, always in opposition to the idea that ordinary people have the right to stand up for human rights and against corruption, including in Venezuela.

This is the struggle of our time. This legislation makes it clear that we stand united with our allies in Latin America and across the world in rejecting the Kremlin's support for the corrupt Maduro regime.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1477, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING THE WORK OF TUBERCULOSIS SURVIVOR KATE O'BRIEN

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the great work of tuberculosis survivor Kate O'Brien.

Kate visited my office in Newark earlier this month, along with the staff from the Global Tuberculosis Institute of Rutgers University. She shared with me her inspiring story about surviving TB and the need for global and domestic TB funding.

Tuberculosis is a curable, airborne infection that kills more people worldwide than any other infectious disease. It is the leading killer of people with HIV worldwide.

Tuberculosis is also a problem here in the United States. In 2016, the disease was reported in each of the 50 States, with more than 9,000 cases reported across the country that year.

Though it is curable, TB has a huge economic impact. In my State of New Jersey, TB costs the economy \$5.7 million a year.

We have made tremendous progress to combat TB here in the United States. Because of the work of advocates and survivors like Kate O'Brien, we can raise awareness about tuberculosis, increase funding for research and treatment, and save lives at home and abroad.

HONORING ARMY SPECIALIST ROSS MCGINNIS ON NATIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR DAY

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today is National Medal of Honor Day, when this Nation recalls the sacrifice and heroics of all Medal of Honor recipients.

Over 150 years ago, on March 25, 1863, the first Medals of Honor were presented. In 1990, Congress designated March 25 as National Medal of Honor Day. The Medal of Honor is the highest military honor our Nation can bestow.

In 2016, I was able to recognize one of Pennsylvania's very own Medal of

Honor recipients, the late Army Specialist Ross McGinnis. The post office in Knox, Clarion County, is named for Specialist McGinnis, who died in December 2006 in Iraq.

While on patrol in eastern Baghdad on December 4, 2006, an unidentified insurgent positioned on a nearby rooftop threw a grenade into a Humvee carrying McGinnis and other troops. Specialist McGinnis threw his body on top of the grenade, saving the lives of his fellow soldiers.

He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor by President George W. Bush in 2008.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful Nation, I salute all our Medal of Honor recipients.

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HONORING ROBERT McDANIEL

(Mr. VEASEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, last week the city of Fort Worth said good-bye to its last surviving member of the World War II Tuskegee Airmen, Robert T. McDaniel.

Born in Fort Worth, Mr. McDaniel was a proud graduate of Fort Worth ISD, where he excelled as a student. In 1940, he finished as class president and valedictorian at the venerable I.M. Terrell High School.

At a time when the military was still segregated and Black men were not welcomed in the service, Mr. McDaniel became a member of the first class of African American bombardiers in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He was part of a group of skilled Black airmen who flew combat aircraft in World War II.

After serving his country, Mr. McDaniel returned to Fort Worth to teach at I.M. Terrell and later became a principal and a counselor. In this role, he worked to inspire a generation of leaders in Fort Worth's Black community that is countless.

As many of his friends will tell you, Mr. McDaniel never boasted about his military service, and only a few people knew about his service to the Nation as a Tuskegee Airman.

I know that we are going to miss Mr. McDaniel.

I also wanted to touch on the fact that I will never forget when his wife, Hester, died. They were married for 55 years, and they were an institution in the Black community in Fort Worth. Everybody knew them. They were just a lovely couple. He was so sad when she passed away. They were always at each other's side.

While we will miss Mr. McDaniel, we know that he is happy to be reunited with his wife, Hester McDaniel.

My deepest condolences go out to his family and his friends as we reflect on the trails that he blazed and his deep commitment to our country.

RECOGNIZING BEN DAVIS

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, the Boy Scout motto is "Be Prepared." All Scouts say it, but very few live it. A young Scout from Sugar Land, Texas, lived it. His name is Ben Davis.

On July 2, 2018, Ben hears faint cries. He is horrified when he finds the source: an 87-year-old neighbor lying in her yard. She had fallen doing yard work. She had been lying in the hot Texas July sun for hours. She was dying.

Being a prepared Boy Scout, Ben knew exactly what to do: go into the woman's house, call 911. And that is exactly what Ben did. Ben stayed with his neighbor until help arrived.

Ben Davis is the best in Sugar Land, in Fort Bend County, in Texas, and in America. He is a prepared Boy Scout hero.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

(Mrs. LAWRENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Women's History Month, where we recognize women who are living today, making a difference in America.

I want to recognize a Detroit woman, Adrienne Bennett, who was the first Black female master plumber in the United States of America. She had already broken barriers and made history, and her impact only continues to soar in her position as the CEO of her own company.

This month and every month, we must stand up and lift up women all across this country, ensuring our laws and policies empower and protect all women.

Mr. Speaker, I stand here today as co-chair of the Women's Caucus and join women all over this country as we step up and ensure that this country, for the girls and young women coming behind us, is one of respect, one of equality, and one of opportunities.

HONORING NATIONAL YOUNG FARMERS AWARD

(Mr. ROUZER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, Jessica and Brandon Batten of Johnston County, North Carolina, have received the distinct honor of being selected as the 2019 National Outstanding Young Farmers of the Year. No couple is more deserving of this award than Jessica and Brandon.

Brandon has been farming his entire life. He is a sixth-generation farmer and the third generation of his family's operation Triple B Farms, Incorporated, where he and his family

produce tobacco, wheat, rye, soybeans, corn, and hay, along with beef cattle. His wife, Jessica, is an environmental engineer, providing innovative conservation plans to help increase farm productivity.

Not only are the Battens helping to produce our food supply, they are also very active members of their community. Brandon is a first responder for Strickland's Crossroads Volunteer Fire Department, and both are active in their church.

During a time when North Carolina's farm families have been facing a great deal of uncertainty, Brandon has been a strong advocate for his occupation through various farm organizations as well as the promotion of research and technological advancements in agriculture to help the industry remain strong.

Mr. Speaker, these are two great young Americans who deserve to have their hard work and efforts rewarded, and I congratulate them on being selected for this very distinguished recognition.

WHEN WOMEN SUCCEED, AMERICA SUCCEEDS

(Mrs. BEATTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I come today to the floor to salute women, living legends, women who are focused and determined and hopeful and empowered—not just one, but a roll call from my district:

Karen Morrison, Ohio Health; Trudy Bartley, The Ohio State University; Stephanie Hightower, the Urban League; Kathy Espy, Mount Carmel; Yvette McGee Brown, Jones Day law firm; the Women's Fund; the YWCA, with Christie Angel; Go Red for Women; Delta Sigma Theta; The Links, Incorporated; the Matriarch; Barbara Benham, Huntington Bank; Dawn Tyler Lee, the mayor's office; Emilia Sykes, Ohio House Democratic leader;

Our judges, African American women elected to the courts: Jaiza Page, Laurel Beatty Blunt, Monica Hawkins, Kimberly Browne, Terri Jamison. And the list goes on and on: Jennifer Brunner, judge; and, yes, the Ohio Supreme Court, Melody Stewart.

Today I stand here and I say thank you to Jo Ann Davidson, the first female Speaker in Ohio; Colleen Marshall, reporting it every day on the news; and so many more.

Today I join women on this floor because we salute women. Women make a difference. But most importantly, Mr. Speaker, we know when women succeed, America succeeds.

MOTORCYCLE PROFILING

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, as co-chair of the Congressional Motorcycle

Caucus, I am committed to advocating for riders both on and off the road.

This week, Congressman TIM WALBERG and I will reintroduce a resolution highlighting motorcycle profiling. This resolution recognizes motorcyclists' importance to their communities and promotes collaboration between motorcyclists and law enforcement.

We introduced this resolution in a previous Congress, and its Senate companion was passed in December of last year.

Mr. Speaker, more than 27 million Americans are estimated to operate a motorcycle, annually, representing 9 percent of the population, yet motorcyclists account for a significant portion of road accidents and road injuries. That is why I co-chair the Congressional Motorcycle Caucus: to support riders through education and awareness.

Together, we can make travel safer for all motorists in general and motorcyclists in particular. This first week of spring, I look forward to continued engagement on motorcycle safety and awareness.

Remember: Share the road.

NATO'S 70TH ANNIVERSARY

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, during this Women's History Month, I rise to recognize the life of Madeleine Jana Korbel Albright, the first female U.S. Secretary of State, serving from 1997 to 2001, who has dedicated the best years of her life to defending liberty.

Concurrently, it is my honor to commemorate the 70th anniversary of NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. This historic alliance emerged out of the ashes of the bloodiest conflict humankind has ever known: World War II.

It is thanks to NATO that the free world defeated Soviet Russia's tyrannical grip over Europe and expanded democracy eastward. Seventy years later, NATO remains as vital as ever to national security.

Today, Russia seeks to undermine democratic values enshrined by NATO and its member nations as Russia leads a deadly war against the freedom-loving people of Ukraine, seeks to spread corruption across Europe, and undermines democratic institutions around the world, including in our own elections.

For this reason, Congress welcomes Jens Stoltenberg, Secretary General of NATO, to address a joint meeting here on April 3 to invoke the importance of America's commitment to this abiding relationship.

On the 70th anniversary, on behalf of grateful millions of Ohioans and Americans, we send a message of reassurance to our European allies: We stand together in liberty's cause.

Onward, NATO.

74TH EXPEDITIONARY FIGHTER SQUADRON

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 74th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron for being awarded the Gallant Unit Citation on March 14.

An extraordinarily high honor for these pilots based at Moody Air Force Base in the First Congressional District of Georgia, this is only the fifth time ever the Gallant Unit Citation has been awarded, and the first since 2001. It was created to honor remarkable acts of heroism while engaged with an opposing foreign force on or since 9/11.

The 74th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron earned the award while they were deployed in Turkey, flying for over 10,000 hours in Syria, targeting objectives controlled by ISIS. Their efforts were critical to the elimination of ISIS from 99 percent of Iraq and Syria.

I want to thank the 74th Fighter Squadron for their hard work and sacrifices to make the entire world a safer place to live. I am also very proud to see this work recognized.

Congratulations.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

(Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Women's History Month and the important role that New Hampshire has played in our proud tradition of women breaking barriers.

In 1870, 50 years before passage of the 19th Amendment, Marilla Ricker attempted to vote in New Hampshire. She was denied the ballot, but she refused to stand by and continued to attempt to vote over the coming decades.

Ms. Ricker was denied admittance to the New Hampshire Bar, but fought all the way to the State supreme court, and in 1890 became the first woman admitted to our State bar.

Women hold many firsts in elected office in New Hampshire. Dudley Dudley, the first woman on the New Hampshire Executive Council; JEANNE SHAHEEN, Governor; Beverly Hollingworth, Senate President; and Donna Sytek, Speaker of the New Hampshire House, all served together in 1999. Linda Dalianis became our first Chief Justice of the New Hampshire Supreme Court.

In 2012, I was honored to be a member of the first ever all-female congressional delegation with Senators JEANNE SHAHEEN, Kelly Ayotte, and Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter. Now, JEANNE SHAHEEN and MAGGIE HASSAN are the only women ever in American history to serve as Governor and U.S. Senator.

For Women's History Month, I am proud of New Hampshire's contribution to advancing women.

THE MUELLER INVESTIGATION IS OVER

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my relief that this political witch hunt into the President's alleged and now disproven ties with Russia is finally over.

Most of us knew all along there was no smoking gun, including the majority of my Democrat colleagues who have been parroting these lies for more than 2 years. Now, Special Counsel Robert Mueller has all but confirmed the President's innocence, his report finding there was no evidence of collusion with Russia.

This whole thing started because the left couldn't accept that they had lost an election, and the American people have suffered through this divisive investigation as a result.

Those in Congress or in the media who perpetrated this false narrative for 2 years should be ashamed of themselves. Believe me, the American people know who you are, and they will not soon forget.

Even worse, still now the response by some—the lack of acceptance of Mr. Mueller's findings, the need to dig deeper and deeper—shows they still haven't learned a thing.

But I believe Americans will accept this truth, as most have all along. I pray that we as a people can now finally begin to move on from this disgraceful chapter in American history.

□ 1945

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues on the Women's Caucus in celebrating Women's History Month.

I am very fortunate to come from New York State, the birthplace of the women's rights movement in Seneca Falls, and a State that has given many great women leaders to this country, such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Bella Abzug, Geraldine Ferraro, and Shirley Chisholm.

But the truth is that many women who have made extraordinary contributions to our country are largely left out of the telling of our Nation's history. That is why I am reintroducing bipartisan legislation this week to establish a Smithsonian Women's History Museum in Washington, D.C., and I hope that all my colleagues will join me in this goal.

It comes down to a basic question: How can we empower women if we do not even recognize them? There is not one comprehensive women's museum anywhere in the United States of America. The U.S. needs and deserves a women's history museum that will inspire men and women of all ages for future generations during Women's History Month and all through the year. It

is important. I hope we can make it happen in this Congress.

OPPOSING GREEN NEW DEAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include materials on the topic of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to lead a Western Caucus Special Order to voice our vehement opposition to the Green New Deal before it is put out of its misery by a vote in the U.S. Senate later this week.

With an estimated price tag of \$93 trillion over the first 10 years, the Green New Deal costs more than four times the U.S. public debt. The Green New Deal is a Soviet-style takeover of our entire economy that will radically transform America into a country that will be very bleak and unrecognizable from the country that we know and love today.

The proponents of the Green New Deal like to make it out to be a program to improve our environment, but in reality, it is just a socialist experiment on a grand scale.

Included in the Green New Deal is a job guarantee, even if you don't want to work; a housing guarantee; a healthcare guarantee; and an education guarantee. The cost of these guarantees will put a major burden on the American taxpayer, with the healthcare guarantee alone costing taxpayers \$32 trillion in the first 10 years.

None of these guarantees have anything to do with improving our environment but, rather, are socialist talking points dating back centuries. In fact, only 15 percent of the estimated cost of the Green New Deal applies to the environment.

Pair this additional tax burden with the cost of complying with all the new one-size-fits-all regulations included in the Green New Deal, which is estimated to cost \$650,000 per household over 10 years, and the annually disposable income for an average household just vanishes.

In total, Americans will have to spend \$155.5 billion to replace furnaces, \$11.9 billion to replace gas dryers, \$50 billion to replace water heaters, and \$26 billion to replace stoves.

In the words of Michael Zehr from the Consumer Energy Alliance: "American consumers need practical energy solutions that come from our Nation's existing mix of affordable energy re-

sources. As it stands, the Green New Deal does not offer cost-efficient or sustainable solutions for hardworking families and businesses across our country."

The Green New Deal is a job killer. The Green New Deal would eliminate 10.3 million jobs in the oil and gas industry, 600,000 jobs in the aviation industry, 1.4 million hydroelectric jobs, 100,000 jobs in nuclear energy, and 50,000 jobs in coal.

Mr. Speaker, while it is important to point out the most obvious and radical policies of the Green New Deal, such as the elimination of conventional energy sources and industries, there are several other policy consequences that should be highlighted.

Mr. Speaker, did you know that, according to the think tank Data Progress, the Green New Deal will reinstate the Obama administration's WOTUS, the waters of the U.S., and the so-called Clean Power Plan rules as part of this terrible policy? These two burdensome regulations in and of themselves did more to strip Americans of their property rights and shackle baseload power than any other regulations before them. Data Progress also reports that the Green New Deal will ban plastic straws and ban hydraulic fracturing.

The democratic socialists pushing the Green New Deal want to get rid of all energy sources except wind, solar, and batteries by 2030. How are we going to do that when wind and solar only produced 7.6 percent of our electricity in 2017? How are we going to domestically produce the critical minerals needed for this endeavor and renewables when democratic socialists and extreme environmentalists vehemently oppose mining?

As for America's farmers, the Green New Deal would also reduce current farming practices and land use by 70 percent by 2050 and ban groundwater irrigation by large-scale agribusiness. For many of my colleagues, that means unemployment for many and a significantly decreased standard of living for all. How are we going to feed ourselves? How are we going to feed the world?

When it comes to the Green New Deal, I think all of us must ask ourselves a simple question: Are we so arrogant to think that Washington, D.C., should control and dictate every aspect of the lives of the American people? My answer to that question is emphatically no. No, we should not. And, no, we will not allow the flawed policies of the Green New Deal to be adopted.

Renewables are playing, and will continue to play, an important role in our energy future, but they cannot exclusively be relied upon to provide all our energy and electrical needs.

Let's deal in reality and put an end to the socialist Green New Deal once and for all.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN).

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Arizona for yielding.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, in strong opposition to H. Res. 109, the Green New Deal. This resolution is nothing short of a socialistic takeover of our energy, our transportation, and our agricultural industries that aims to change every single aspect of our lives, including how Americans eat, travel, stay warm, build their homes, and even what jobs we take.

As a fiscal conservative, I believe that the Green New Deal is entirely irresponsible. Recently, our national debt exceeded \$22 trillion, and we have no realistic plan for paying that off. The Green New Deal would add trillions more to our debt, while simultaneously destroying the American economy.

It would also transfer tremendous costs onto the taxpayers, a total of \$93 trillion over 10 years. For example, every home and every building would need to be retrofitted at the cost of \$2.5 trillion over the next decade.

Additionally, the Green New Deal's stated goal is to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions in that same timeframe, which will cost the taxpayer \$11 trillion. Our current tax base could not support this catastrophic level of new spending. Therefore, taxes will need to be raised on every single American and business, inflicting massive damage on our economy due to the loss in take-home pay for the average family and resulting in job losses in the private sector.

Proponents of the Green New Deal also want to see all our American power come from wind or solar or batteries. This is completely unsustainable, currently, and will lead to blackouts, a dwindling food supply, and an all-out assault on private property rights.

The Green New Deal also contains no plan on what we will do with all the refuse and the trash that will be resulting from the millions of appliances, batteries, and buildings that need to be replaced or retrofitted.

This proposal, as grand in its scope as it is absent in its specifics, betrays a shocking naivete and a total absence of understanding of basic economic principles or even of our electric grid and infrastructure.

Most importantly, the authors of this proposal fail to appreciate the love of liberty and freedom that the American people share. Americans will never stand for such a radical, socialistic restructuring of our economy, and it must be strongly and emphatically rejected.

Over the last century, we have seen socialist governments around the world make the same empty promises of unlimited peace and prosperity if only their citizens would just relinquish control of their affairs and give up their freedoms and liberty to an overbearing government. The result has inevitably been the same: barren fields, crumbling infrastructure, broken economies, oppressed peoples, and, eventually, fleeing populations, as we

have seen firsthand in Venezuela, Cuba, the Soviet Union, and many other failed socialistic states.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL). The gentleman represents many agricultural producers whose livelihoods are greatly threatened by this legislation.

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I had a young family in my office this morning, a wonderful, nice-looking 11-year-old boy who was in my office today with his dad, his mom, and several other people from southwest Kansas. He looked at me and he said: Congressman MARSHALL, will I be able to run cattle when I get older? My great-grandfather ran cattle; my grandfather ran cattle; my daddy ran cattle; and I would like to run cattle someday, but this Green New Deal scares me.

He said: Will the Green New Deal keep me from running cattle?

I had to say: Unfortunately, yes, it would.

The Green New Deal would be the end of agriculture as we know it in Kansas. Agriculture makes up 40 percent of the economy of Kansas. For all practical purposes, it would be the end of the Kansas economy.

Another large part of our economy is oil and gas, and the Green New Deal would be the end of that.

I always try to think about the impact of something like the Green New Deal. First of all, it would triple your taxes. I think that would be well proven. But I always am especially concerned for that young family, maybe that family that I delivered 5 or 10 or 15 years ago, and they have two or three kids at home. How would the new Green New Deal impact them? First of all, their grocery bill is going to double or triple, I suppose. They would have to replace all the appliances in their home. Their utility bill is going to go up.

Then I think about the price of gas. I always noticed in my obstetrical practice that whenever the price of gasoline got about \$3 a gallon, women would suddenly ask: Do we have to come back this often? Quite a few of my patients live 60 or 90 miles from me, and it was quite a challenge to come visit us. When the price of gasoline got about \$3 a gallon, they didn't want to come quite as often.

I can't help but think what the Green New Deal would do to the cost of gasoline, if there is such a thing. I suppose we would all be driving electric cars.

Where I am from, I only wish that we could hop on a train and take public transportation, but there are just not enough trains to go around in Kansas. We are lucky to have roads in most places where we live, so public transportation just isn't an option.

All that being said, Mr. Speaker, I think, like the gentleman from Arizona, I want to leave this country and I want to leave the State of Kansas

cleaner than I found it. I am so proud that Kansas waters and Kansas air are cleaner today than when I was growing up. I am very proud of that. I want to keep going in that direction.

I am very proud that the carbon imprint from the United States is less today than it was in 2004, and I want to keep going in that direction. But it is my belief that innovation is what is going to drive this and keep us going in that direction.

I am so proud of what the American entrepreneurs have done in Kansas and across this country, our ability to get more natural gas and to make all of our refineries cleaner. Where we produce electricity, so many of them are 97 percent cleaner.

The issue of ecology is a worldwide problem. It is a problem that the United States cannot cure by itself. We need to be a leader and keep going in the direction we are going.

I look forward to working with folks across the aisle to come up with real solutions that will really work for this country. I think that the American innovator will do great things and that better days are ahead for America.

□ 2000

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I would now like to recognize the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP is the ranking member of the Natural Resources Committee and has been a steadfast leader in opposing the Green New Deal.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) taking the lead this evening and talking about this important issue.

Look, one of the things we always need to do is learn the lessons of history, so we simply do not repeat them.

In the late 1800–1900s, communism was the new government concept that excited the elites of that particular era to the point that it was such an expansive idea, that part of the reason that Woodrow Wilson wrote his 14 points was to intellectually challenge communism and restate the significance of democracy and republican forms of government.

When communism did obviously take root in the Soviet Union and China, it was not a philosophical statement, it was simply an excuse for the good, old-fashioned dictators to tell people how to live their lives.

So as Lenin called it, it was important to have the vanguard of the proletariat, so the government would tell people how to think until people realized that the government was right in the first place.

Those are some of the parts of history that we never want to repeat again.

Now, if the Green New Deal, this toothless wish, was merely a one-and-done manifesto, then maybe that would be one thing, but my fear is, it becomes an opening salvo into the dangers that are stated when we decide that the gov-

ernment must find the solutions, the government must tell people what to think and what to do, that elites are the ones who have all the ideas; when in reality, history has shown us that solutions always come from people who were empowered to find and make decisions for themselves, and find solutions for themselves.

People need to be given options. People need to be given choices, people need to be able to chart their own destiny.

My fear is elitism enriches and empowers would-be autocrats, denigrates the roles of individuals, and those are dangerous attitudes that must be discussed and must be understood in some way.

And let's face it, some of the people—the cheerleaders for the Green New Deal—they simply don't get it.

When they live in areas where commutes, family errands are measured in blocks and subway stops, that is different from other people in America who, when they take a drive into town to buy school clothes that is going to take the entire afternoon.

It is different than people who realize that they have to make a choice between healthcare and heating their home; and that is a real responsibility for them, and a real problem.

The burdens imposed by the Green New Deal, which have been outlined by several speakers already, are those that land squarely on the shoulders of humble, hardworking Americans while the elites pat themselves on the back.

For the rural west, my State of Utah, it is not really a Green New Deal; it is, rather, a green raw deal for them to live.

Now, recently in my committee where I am the ranking member, we had an amendment that Mr. GRAVES made to one of the rules that would request an analysis of economics before any bill was considered.

Now, one of the freshmen Democrats spoke to that issue, and I want to just restate what he said. I thought what he said was profound.

He stated, I think we have to be very mindful of the people, their jobs, their ability to pay their bills, because of the changes that we make.

And this is a discussion that should always be had. We shouldn't just be speaking in the theoretical.

Now, ironically, even though I thought his words were spot on, that motion to have that policy was defeated.

Nonetheless, I recently joined other ranking members in asking Speaker PELOSI that if there was serious discussion, that unlike H.R. 1, this is going to be heard by many committees, many voices will have a chance at talking about what will actually happen.

These hearings ought to ask how this Green New Deal might impact energy prices and home prices and jobs and healthcare.

So far, those who have done the series of studies—so far they're from the

outside—the outlook looks pretty bleak on what the potential could indeed be.

There are already many complex examples of negative impacts that would happen if this was actually to become a reality.

So as stated in our plea to Speaker PELOSI, I do fear that this Green New Deal would hurt Americans struggling to make ends meet, the very people it purports to help. And worst of all, it could permanently put the American Dream out of reach for millions of people.

We need to really look very carefully at this and not just assume statements that are being made taking place. We need to learn from history and not repeat those same mistakes.

Mr. Speaker, I am appreciative of having the opportunity of being here as part of this Special Order to try and talk about some of the realities of this purported deal.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's response, and thank him.

I yield to my friend, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH).

Mr. GRIFFITH represents the heart of Virginia coal country, an industry that would be eliminated if the Green New Deal would become law.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, you know I would like to engage in colloquies and talk about issues.

Mr. GOSAR. Sure.

Mr. GRIFFITH. And you know what is interesting about this is, I do represent a coal district, but if we shut down all of this, as we have discussed in the Green New Deal, are the Indians going to stop using coal?

Of course not.

Are the Chinese going to stop using coal?

Mr. GOSAR. No.

Mr. GRIFFITH. No. The rest of the world will continue to use these sources.

And, in fact, industries that are dependent upon our natural resources—coal, oil, natural gas—well, they will just move to the countries that will let them use it, and it will not have any effect on the environment.

But this really is not a proposal that should be taken seriously. It was clearly thrown together quickly in an attempt to get some press; and, unfortunately, 100 Members of the body decided to sign on to it.

But when you read it, you know it is not there. We have heard all the things that could happen if we take a watered-down version of the Green New Deal. But if we pass the Green New Deal and we actually do what it says, and you read the words, it says, remove greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. It doesn't say, reduce. It doesn't say, remove hazardous greenhouse gases.

So, I would ask my friend who holds a degree in the science field, and with whom we have lots of discussion about

science on the floor and at various meetings; what happens if we eliminate the greenhouse gases of water vapor and carbon dioxide; eliminate them, remove them, as the Green New Deal calls for?

What happens if that occurs?

Mr. GOSAR. Well, photosynthesis; this is the key component of cellular growth in plants. They take carbon dioxide; they take dirty water; they have sunlight, and it produces oxygen and clean water. That is what we actually get with photosynthesis.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, and if you eliminate carbon dioxide—the gentleman is correct—we won't have any plants. If we don't have any plants, oxygen plummets in the atmosphere.

And as I told a group of high school students recently, and you know what that means for us?

And all, if not most, life forms that currently rely on either carbon dioxide or oxygen will die and all that will be left are the life forms, the microbial life forms that live near hot vents in the ocean or the edges of volcanoes, because they don't rely on that. The rest of life would be wiped out.

Now, I know that is not what the Democrats meant when they introduced this, but isn't that the scientific conclusion of removing greenhouse gases from the atmosphere; not reducing, removing? Isn't that correct?

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, it absolutely would be correct.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, and so while I know they weren't thinking about it or they probably didn't mean to go that far, it shows you that even if we modified it, it won't work for the people.

Jobs would be eliminated, jobs will be cut, and we really won't have any impact on the environment unless we go the full bore, in which case, we no longer have air to breathe and we won't have to worry about the global temperature in 20 years or 30 years or 40 years, because none of us will be here.

And it is just fascinating to me how they can get the science so messed up and, yet, lecture to us about the science.

Mr. GOSAR. Absolutely.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman. In fact, the gentleman brings up a great point.

There is an article by Michael Shellenberger and it is, "Why Renewables Can't Save the Planet." In this discussion—it is a wonderful article; it is in Quillette—he talks about renewable energy, particularly solar and wind.

They are low density. They don't have what they call basal power. They only produce when the sun is shining and when the wind is blowing. So you need batteries. And as he states so eloquently here, the new renaissance for batteries isn't coming any time soon.

In fact, we see many of the same people who propose the Green New Deal are obstinate in trying to allow mining

for these critical and rare earths that are required for battery development.

In fact, over 90 percent of the world's market for critical minerals—or these rare earths—are dictated by China. So they are not going to come any time soon.

And then, let's talk about the ecological damage.

In fact, wind is the largest destroyer of large birds.

Now, small, little birds, cats will take care of, but what ends up happening, raptors—like condors and eagles and hawks—are the ones who are killed most often by these big rotary blades or turbines that turn. These are the birds that are most at peril right now in our world.

So once again, we are dooming the future because we are predominating selection to the government, and that is a sad thing.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Will the gentleman yield for a second?

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman may recall, I am a bird-watcher.

Mr. GOSAR. Yes, the gentleman is.

Mr. GRIFFITH. So when the gentleman started talking about birds, I came back to the mike.

We hope science will solve these problems, and that is why we need to have more research and development on all of this.

Instead of saying, stop everything, we need to do research and development. But isn't there also a problem today with solar and some of the larger solar arrays that they actually fry birds as they fly; whether it be large birds or small birds?

Mr. GOSAR. Absolutely.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Because the birds don't see the heat, and they fly into it, and they are fried to a crackly crunch.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, that is exactly right.

Mr. GRIFFITH. And so there are lots of things we need to worry about in that regard.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman bringing that up today, because what we want to do is have a balanced approach.

We want renewables. We want all of the above. But we also have to make sure that we are not throwing the baby out with the bathwater, and in the end, killing off our large predator birds or killing birds with technologies that are not quite ready for prime time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is absolutely right. The renewables are very important, because what it allows us to do is take this wonderful wealth that we have of coal and nuclear and oil and gas and hydro, and really extend it into the future, where the best way that we can have an impact on this world is our democracy, our republic, our way of entrepreneurially changing things; not having dictations coming by the Federal Government. It is the entrepreneurial spirit of individuals.

So it is a wonderful aspect to use all the above. And I think that is what everybody would like to see.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Hear, hear, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I didn't mention that we are working on some technology right now that allows us to extract rare earth minerals out of some of our coal deposits to the United States and be able to take some of that business away from the Chinese and bring it back to the United States.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is exactly right.

Mr. Speaker, in fact, the gentleman is very astute in regard to the overburden area, where many of these rare earths can be extracted; so we are not dependent upon the whims and wiles of the Chinese Government.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I just have to bring this up: I was meeting with some folks at Virginia Tech recently who are working on this very area. And as a part of the spinoff of the research and the technology they are doing to refine it and to try to get the other minerals out, they have also found a way of using that same technology to improve the steel industry. And they are now licensing some steel companies in India, which would lower their carbon footprint.

So we have the research into coal that is now going to help the steel industry in an area that doesn't have anywhere near the regulations we have to lower their carbon footprint.

This is the way we should be going in the United States: Use our entrepreneurial spirit; use our research; put some Federal money behind that research, but use our research to find ways to make the environment, worldwide, better instead of proclaiming broad edicts that we are not going to have cows in 10 years, or we are not going to do this in 10 years.

Instead, let's let our research and our entrepreneurial spirit and our ingenuity solve these problems for us and the world.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman also brings to my mind another opportunity that we actually see where the pulverization of coal is then injected into spaces within oil; we get a 50 percent additional better burn and a cleaner burn at that.

So once again, the technology is there for all these abundances of wealth that we have in the energy sector.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Absolutely.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

You know, when the gentleman talks about rare earths, they sit all over our western frontier.

□ 2015

In fact, in Arizona, they line our deserts.

These are geos, and typically, in the past, to extract those rare earths that are required for these batteries for solar and wind, it is very caustic by

utilizing high concentrations of sulfuric acid. But we have got the entrepreneurial spirit of people back in Arizona who are using high concentrations of citric acids, like from limes and lemons, and actually extracting the same rare earths in that aspect.

Once again, the power of those entrepreneurial individuals out there in America are the ones who are changing the dynamics of the way our energy portfolio looks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) for some additional comments.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity of speaking one more time here especially because this is such a significant issue that you are addressing to the people and because, as leader of the Congressional Western Caucus, you have held a whole lot of forums to discuss the implications of what could be there.

So in one of the last forums, we had policy think tanks and industry and conservation groups that were there testifying. I was struck by the comments of Thomas Pyle, president of the American Energy Alliance, when he said: "For nearly a decade now, the United States, long blessed with vast natural resources, has benefited from the greatest energy expansion in the history of the world. Our energy producers have delivered the low-cost, affordable, and reliable energy that has fueled economic growth and opportunity for all Americans, no matter their race, sex, creed, or color."

Now, it is interesting, as we talk about this concept, that, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, by 2020 the United States will become a net exporter of energy for the first time since 1953. That means no longer are we going to be reliant upon questionable foreign powers like Russia or Saudi Arabia for our energy.

Even the concepts that we have developed, the fracking and horizontal drilling, those concepts have allowed us not only to expand what we are doing, but also have allowed us to have a carbon emission reduction at the same time. We were the world leader in carbon reduction in 2015, 2016, and 2017, and we are still on that same track again.

In fact, one of the things I find unique about the Green New Deal is it fails to realize that, because of what we have been able to do in oil and natural gas, energy prices are down for those who are most vulnerable in our society. We can afford to cook our food and heat our homes better than ever before.

And while this production has risen significantly, methane emissions have decreased at the same time. In fact, the EPA reported that U.S. greenhouse gas emissions are already down 10 percent in the last 10 years.

So while the Green New Deal has every potential of destroying jobs for millions of people, it still also ignores other alternatives for green energy. For example, it says absolutely nothing about nuclear or hydropower.

Let's face it, 10 percent of our energy today stills comes from hydropower, and hydropower is clean. It leaves behind no waste. It is considered one of the most effective ways of producing electricity. And yet it is absurd to believe that we can achieve zero net carbon emissions without dealing with nuclear or without dealing with hydropower as part of the mix. That is part of the reality that needs to be brought out here.

We have grown our economics. We have cleaned our environment. We have lowered the cost of living for so many people.

We should not denigrate everything that the current system is already doing that for some people, for some elitists, they simply want to try to ignore that and ignore the fact that, if we want to continue on this path, what we need to do is empower people to be able to come up with solutions on their own. It is not going to happen by the government telling people how to live and what to think. We need to empower people, not empower the government.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for the opportunity of expressing that idea again.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I want to engage the gentleman in a colloquy.

The gentleman and I went on a codel over to Europe. We saw Germany, Lithuania, and Norway. We saw the power of the influence that our energy can actually provide, particularly in Lithuania.

Can the gentleman highlight that for us?

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, one of the problems that Baltic countries have—Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania—is they are right next-door to the monolith Russia, that has used its energy potential to blackmail and intimidate these other countries. Even today, they have finally broken away from their oil and gas dependency on Russia. Their electrical grid is still tied to Russia.

What Lithuania was able to do is import a natural gas mobile station. They were able to get off of the Russian dependency so they could, once again, have their own resources coming in there.

Estonia does the same thing with their oil shale. They have been able to produce their own energy, which allows them to have independence and not be bullied by large countries, in this case, by Russia.

That is one of the things we are doing in what we are already doing. That is one of the futures that we are having. In fact, it is interesting that some of the countries we visited that were very proud of what they were doing with alternative energy, they always have to have a backup system.

Mr. GOSAR. That is right.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. And that backup system is based on coal. Without that, they could not guarantee baseloads that they have to have just to keep their countries going.

Mr. GOSAR. Well, the first country we visited was Germany, and they were very proud of what they were getting rid of in coal and nuclear; and yet their baseload was going to be dependent upon Russia, on Nord Stream 1 and 2—absolutely crazy. We want to be less dependent on Russia.

This whole country has gone through this whole Russia this and Russiagate that. So we want to see that dependency being more entrepreneurial, and the United States is perfectly suited for that.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I guess what the gentleman is saying is, if you want the economy to grow, if you want people to be empowered, if you want to find solutions not only to environmental issues but also energy issues, empower people to come up with that. We are actually doing that.

America's history is a history that is positive. Empower that to go forward. Don't try and stop it with some other elitist idea from the top-down theories.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I agree, absolutely.

It also extends even far into our agricultural aspects. Never before in the world have we seen less aspects of poverty. Today the lowest aspects around the world are poverty; and at the same time, we see the lowest incidence of hunger. How is that possible? It is the entrepreneurial farmer. We reproduce more than we can supply around the world.

And what do they need? They need abundant energy. They need abundant water. All of these things are plausible because, once again, it is the entrepreneur who actually solves these problems, not the government.

If the government can give all, it can take all; and it has done so, whether it be the Soviet Union, whether it be Mao's China, or whether it be the Venezuela experiment that is going dramatically wrong today. It never works because you eventually run out of everybody else's money.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, that is true.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, once again, a lot of our proponents backstab us by saying: Listen, we lack a vision.

America's energy renaissance is the backbone of our economy. We just talked about it. It is a story of freedom, prosperity, and opportunity.

After decades of reliance on other countries to meet our energy needs, the U.S. Energy Information Administration projects that America will export more energy than it imports, starting in 2020. We are no longer dependent on foreign sources like Russia and Saudi Arabia.

The innovations of technology improvements associated with fracking and horizontal drilling have allowed shale resources, previously deemed uneconomical, to be developed and are the main reason the U.S. was the world leader in carbon emissions reductions.

We have got to say it again. As Ranking Member BISHOP said, reduc-

tions in 2015, 2016, and 2017—that is right, fracking that is demonized by environmental extremists without justification, has proven to be the best energy solution for our environment.

Abundant oil and natural gas has reduced electricity bills, kept prices low, and provided the largest share of U.S. electric power generation in recent years. The oil and gas industry supports more than 10.3 million jobs and nearly 8 percent of our economy.

The United States is now the top energy producer, and the American Dream is thriving. January 2019 saw the 100th consecutive month of positive job growth in America, the longest period of continuous job growth on record. The U.S. job market is strong, and in December, employers posted 7.3 million open jobs—once again, a new record.

Members of the Congressional Western Caucus support personal responsibility and less government intervention in our daily lives and freedoms. They defend property rights and believe that private ownership of property is a fundamental right in America. Our vision encourages innovation and less burdensome mandates.

People want clean water. People want clean air, and they are striving for that. The people who depend on the land to provide security for their families and communities understand their resources the best. States and municipalities are better suited to deal with the local issues than distant, out-of-touch Washington bureaucrats.

The caucus seeks to promote access to our Nation's energy and resources potential, while pursuing a true all-of-the-above energy approach that aims to ensure that the U.S. is the global energy leader. We know how to do this best. We ought to be doing it right.

Our vision utilizes the current energy renaissance and the American energy dominance policy currently being implemented by the Trump administration in the State of Texas. Texas leads the country in wind production.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, Texas had more generating capacity than any other State last year and more installed wind power capacity than all but five countries in the world.

Once again, think that through. Texas was the fifth largest in the world in power production by wind. The country's only large clean-capture coal facility is found in Texas. The Petra Nova facility is the only carbon capture and storage coal-fired plant in the United States, and it is only one of two facilities that utilizes that technology in the world.

Once again, American entrepreneurs are at it again, making things better, making things more achievable. Coal generates baseload power that prevents rolling blackouts when renewables fall short in extreme weather. Most people don't understand that.

Alternative or intermittent power is when the wind doesn't blow and the

Sun doesn't shine. In fact, you heard President Trump at one of his speeches talk about: Hey, honey, I would like to watch television. Is the wind blowing?

If you didn't have baseload power and the wind wasn't blowing, you couldn't watch television. So what baseload is, it runs 24/7. That is called hydroelectric. That is called natural gas. That is called oil and coal. That is also nuclear, one of the largest density energy productions all around, and we, once again, could not do it without it.

According to the third quarter 2018 report from the Solar Energy Industries Association, Texas is poised to become a nationwide leader in solar energy, with more than 4 gigawatts of capacity expected to be installed over the next 5 years.

Now, think about this. Texas is the fifth largest in both solar and wind, once again, having a plethora of our baseload energy in oil and gas and coal. There are two operating nuclear power plants in Texas, and my home State of Arizona has the largest nuclear power plant.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration previously reported that Texas is among the top 10 States with the greatest nuclear power generation capacity in the country.

Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Western Caucus' alternative vision to the vision currently being pursued by the Trump administration and the great State of Texas are concurrent. They are opposite of the Green New Deal. That is a pipe dream. If we go down this Green New Deal path, the United States will be walking in its own green mile.

Now, Mr. Speaker, many of my constituents continue to ask me: What is actually in the Green New Deal?

Confusion has arisen, given that it is light on details and Members ran from the summary document put out by Congresswoman OCASIO-CORTEZ' office.

One significant piece of information that my constituents asked me about is whether the Green New Deal includes a jobs guarantee for everyone in the United States, including those who are unwilling to work.

As part of the frequently asked questions document that was released with legislation, it was stated that economic security would be provided for those who "are unwilling to work." Many of my constituents just can't believe that that is actually in there and an objective of the people pushing the Green New Deal.

Staff have since retracted Representative OCASIO-CORTEZ' frequently asked questions document.

But the message I hope the American people hear is: We know the motives behind the Green New Deal and we know how its proponents plan to carry out its objectives. From ending airplane travel to shuttering down all nuclear power, hydropower, and even getting rid of all natural gas, some people, unfortunately, on the other side of the aisle are threatening our way of life and the American economy.

□ 2030

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the links for the two most frequently asked questions documents, which I have in my hand, that were released by Congresswoman OCASIO-CORTEZ's office to the press and posted on her website.

The first link is: https://westerncaucus.house.gov/uploadedfiles/green-new-deal-faq_provided_to_npr_v2.pdf

The second link is: <https://web.archive.org/web/20190207191119/https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov/media/blog-posts/green-new-deal-faq>

Mr. Speaker, I want to focus on how the Green New Deal will affect our agriculture industry. It has been the lifeblood of our rural communities the Western Caucus represents, and the Green New Deal stands to decimate it. The Green New Deal is nothing short of an all-out attack on agriculture by the socialist left.

Reading directly from the text of the bill, the Green New Deal seeks to eliminate "pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from the agricultural sector as much as is technologically feasible."

We had a nice conversation with my friend from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH). The agriculture industry supports more than 21 million jobs, 11 percent of the U.S. jobs, according to the Farm Bureau. Representative OCASIO-CORTEZ has attacked agriculture, cows, hamburgers, and factory farming in pushing the Green New Deal. In fact, in the fact sheet released by her office, it mentions a desire to get rid of farting cows.

OCASIO-CORTEZ doubled down on agriculture, cows, hamburgers, and factory farming in an interview, stating, in the Green New Deal, "what we talk about is . . . that we need to take a look at factory farming, period. It is wild. . . . Maybe we shouldn't be eating a hamburger for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. . . . We have to take a look at everything."

Well, Mr. Speaker, the last time I checked, this is a common bodily function of nearly every animal, and eliminating animals for this reason would mean an end to livestock in agriculture.

Land needed for agriculture is also under assault under the Green New Deal. In fact, when it comes to land needed for agriculture, the agriculture, energy, and transportation industries are linked because of land needed to build high-speed rail and solar wind farms.

Farmland will likely need to be seized by the Federal Government in order to build tracks for the high-speed rail and to build wind and solar farms. How does that work going across an ocean, I wonder? Sailboats. That would be fun for those in Guam and Hawaii.

The elimination of farmland in order to build these projects will cost us jobs and put our food supply in jeopardy. As I highlighted, in the world today is the lowest poverty rate, the lowest rate

ever of people going unfed. It is unbelievable.

The Green New Deal also aims to ban groundwater mining by large-scale agribusinesses, making irrigation needed to sustain this form of agriculture truly impossible.

According to the think tank Data Progress, the Green New Deal will reinstate the Obama administration's WOTUS rule. This WOTUS rule by the previous administration expanded the definition of navigable waters beyond any reasonable interpretation intended by the Clean Water Act. It attempted to assert national regulatory jurisdiction over areas with even the least of connections to water resources, including man-made conveyances.

Farmers, ranchers, and property owners suffer under this overreaching land and water grab.

WOTUS contradicts the prior Supreme Court rulings and seeks to expand agency control over 60 percent of our country's streams and millions of acres of wetlands that were previously nonjurisdictional, once again empowering the government, not the entrepreneur and not the individual.

Mr. Speaker, clearly, the Green New Deal would impose disastrous consequences on our agricultural sector. Ranchers and farmers would suffer significant harm, and private property rights would become a thing of the past. America's rural communities, where I am from, and agricultural economies, where I am also from, can't afford the Green New Deal. It should be rejected on that basis.

Mr. Speaker, many Democrats are supporting the Green New Deal, so let's take a look. While many of us laugh at some of the policies in the Green New Deal and think they are just ridiculous, we must take them seriously, given the large amount of Democratic support for the Green New Deal. In fact, the Green New Deal currently has 90 House cosponsors and 11 Senate cosponsors, including BERNIE SANDERS, KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND, KAMALA HARRIS, ELIZABETH WARREN, CORY BOOKER, and AMY KLOBUCHAR.

There are 14 Democratic Presidential candidates—14 of the current—who have endorsed the Green New Deal, including Senators SANDERS, GILLIBRAND, HARRIS, WARREN, BOOKER, and KLOBUCHAR; former Representative Beto O'Rourke; Washington Governor Jay Inslee; Representative ERIC SWALWELL; Representative TULSI GABBARD; former Representative John Delaney; author Marianne Williamson; former HUD Secretary Julio Castro; and South Bend mayor Pete Buttigieg. Once again, everybody is supporting something that is not possible.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to now focus on the Green New Deal's effect and how it would affect our transportation system. The Green New Deal calls for the abolition of all gas and diesel engine vehicles and replacing them with electric vehicles, mass transit, and high-speed trains.

Once again, this would require batteries, something that is not coming very soon, particularly with the other side's obstinance in trying to stop mining for these rare earths that are required for these batteries.

In the forum that the Western Caucus held last month, we heard from several witnesses who spoke about the effects of the Green New Deal and how they would have an effect on our transportation infrastructure.

To quote Thomas Pyle: "The Green New Deal also envisions a massive build-out of high-speed rail across the country. High-speed rail, in order to reach said high speeds, must travel in a virtually straight line. In a wealthy, developed society like the United States, carving these straight lines means taking the homes and land in the path. There is just no way to even contemplate high-speed rail without sweeping use of eminent domain."

Sweeping eminent domain will be a complete infringement of the property rights of every American citizen and could easily be abused. As we have seen, certain existing high-speed light rail projects such as the bullet train project in California have turned into quagmires that have cost the taxpayers billions of dollars with no return.

One of the main modes of shipping products into our country is by boat. In fact, most of the bulk commodities imported into this country are transported by ship. The large shipping vessels are powered by—you guessed it—diesel-burning engines, which there are currently no replacements for.

Are we just going to scrap one of the main modes of transporting products into this country? If so, what are we going to replace it with?

Along the same lines of ship transportation, what implications does the Green New Deal have for air travel? One would assume it would suffer the same fate.

How would we see our colleagues from Hawaii, Mr. Speaker? For example, the dean of the House, Mr. YOUNG from Alaska, would he have to take a train all the way to Washington, D.C., from Alaska? How would that affect the water, the air, and also the critters along the way?

The airline industry employs 600,000 people. The Green New Deal would destroy these very jobs. The Green New Deal aims to get rid of all combustion engines. This means getting rid of all hotrods, classic cars, big trucks, tractors, large SUVs, and, yes, even mom's van.

Mr. Speaker, the U.S. was the world leader in emissions reductions in 2015, 2016, and 2017. We discussed this earlier. This was the renaissance of oil and gas production and the clean use of that. If we allow American innovation to continue to flourish and to continue to embrace a truly all-of-the-above energy strategy, we will continue to lead the world in emissions reductions without radically changing our way of life, being provocative on how we change

the rest of the world, and we won't get rid of our classic cars.

Mr. Speaker, the Green New Deal is a proposal that should not be taken lightly. The Green New Deal would codify into law a one-size-fits-all government healthcare system, offer free college for all, and create a Federal job guarantee.

According to figures released by the American Action Forum, the Green New Deal would cost every household \$600,000 over 10 years.

The Green New Deal will implement the radical socialist utopian idea of Medicare for All, which would cost American taxpayers \$36 trillion over a 10-year period. That means it would be Medicare for no one. The cost it would impose on the taxpayers would be so unsustainable that the Medicare for All proposal, once again, would be blamed and be renamed Medicare for None.

The Green New Deal would cause harm to the American worker. This fact is even recognized by the AFL-CIO, which has come out strongly against the Green New Deal. They recognize that the only outcome of this bill is to take away good-paying jobs from their members and cause harm to their families.

The United States is currently undergoing an energy renaissance, as we talked about earlier, with natural gas leading the way. The natural gas industry has brought millions of jobs to this country and helped us reduce our carbon footprint in 3 straight years, starting in 2015.

Science shows that the Green New Deal will have a negligible impact on its stated goal of fighting climate change. In fact, the Green New Deal would actually cause climate change and emissions to worsen as energy production would leave the United States and go to countries like China and India that don't have the same environmental regulations and standards as the United States, producing more emissions in the process than if we did so cleanly and responsibly like we do here in the United States.

This legislation only stands to lower temperatures by 0.137 degrees Celsius by 2100, according to the same metrics used by the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

This bill completely ignores the reality that the biggest sources of carbon dioxide are developing countries. The sponsors of the Green New Deal may say that the U.S. can become a leader

in exporting new renewable technologies in the developing world, but would a developing nation give up cheap and abundant energy in return for a more expensive form of energy, Mr. Speaker?

In fact, I quoted this Quillette article about how renewables can't fight climate change. Everyone who is engaged in a renewable-type energy sector has seen their energy portfolios go up three times—much more expensive—three times.

Mr. Speaker, the Western Caucus looks forward to contributing to the debate on this important subject, and I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 41 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, March 26, 2019, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 1477, the Russian-Venezuelan Threat Mitigation Act, would have no significant effect on direct spending or revenues, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 1839, the Medicaid Services Investment and Accountability Act of 2019, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 1839

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—													2019–2024	2010–2029
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029				
NET INCREASE OR DECREASE (–) IN THE DEFICIT															
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact	32	15	16	2	5	2	–2	–6	–15	–21	–28	71	–1		
Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.															

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

434. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting the Agency's interim final rule — Margin and Capital Requirements for Covered Swap Entities (RIN: 2590-AB02) received March 15, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

435. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standards for the Growing, Harvesting, Packing, and Holding of Produce for Human Consumption; Extension of Compliance Dates for Subpart E [Docket No.: FDA-2011-N-0921] (RIN: 0910-AH93) received March 19, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public

Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

436. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.622(i) Post Transition Table of DTV Allotments (Cookeville and Franklin, Tennessee) [MB Docket No.: 18-383] (RM-11822) received March 19, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

437. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question covering the period of June 1, 2018, through July 31, 2018, pursuant to Sec. 620C(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, and in accordance with Sec. 1(a)(6) of Executive Order 13313; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

438. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's

temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Cumberland River, Kentucky [Docket Number: USCG-2019-0127] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received March 15, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

439. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Security Zone; Corpus Christi Ship Channel, Corpus Christi, TX [Docket Number: USCG-2019-0128] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received March 15, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

440. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Removal of Regulated Navigation Areas, Safety Zones, Security Zones, and Special Local Regulations within District 7 [Docket No.: USCG-2018-0231] received March 15, 2019, pursuant to 5

U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

441. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Navigation and Navigable Waters; Technical, Organizational, and Conforming Amendments [Docket No.: USCG-2018-1049] received March 15, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

442. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Lower Mississippi River, Port Gibson, MS [Docket Number: USCG-2019-0126] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received March 15, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

443. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Oregon Inlet, Dare County, NC [Docket Number: USCG-2018-1065] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received March 15, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

444. A letter from the Attorney, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Mill Basin, Brooklyn, NY [Docket No.: USCG-2018-1032] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received March 15, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

445. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Embraer S.A. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0905; Product Identifier 2018-NM-115-AD; Amendment 39-19573; AD 2019-03-21] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

446. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0643; Product Identifier 2018-NM-084-AD; Amendment 39-19572; AD 2019-03-20] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

447. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0957; Product Identifier 2018-NM-102-AD; Amendment 39-19570; AD 2019-03-18] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

448. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0336; Product Identifier 2017-SW-130-AD; Amendment 39-19588; AD 2019-05-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110

Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

449. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0092; Product Identifier 2019-SW-022-AD; Amendment 39-19585; AD 2019-05-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

450. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; MD Helicopters, Inc. (MDHI), Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0991; Product Identifier 2017-SW-050-AD; Amendment 39-19586; AD 2019-05-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

451. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2018-1003; Product Identifier 2018-NM-133-AD; Amendment 39-19567; AD 2019-03-15] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

452. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0904; Product Identifier 2018-NM-108-AD; Amendment 39-19575; AD 2019-03-23] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

453. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Carrizo Springs, TX [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0940; Airspace Docket No.: 18-ASW-15] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

454. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Saab AB, Saab Aeronautics (Formerly Known as Saab AB, Saab Aerosystems) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0964; Product Identifier 2018-NM-127-AD; Amendment 39-19571; AD 2019-03-19] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

455. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Auburn, AL [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0987; Airspace Docket No.: 18-ASO-19] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

456. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Coushatta, LA [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0787; Airspace Docket No.: 18-ASW-12]

(RIN: 2120-AA66) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

457. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce plc Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0056; Product Identifier 2017-NE-29-AD; Amendment 39-19584; AD 2019-05-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

458. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0624; Product Identifier 2013-NE-24-AD; Amendment 39-19583; AD 2019-05-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

459. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0806; Product Identifier 2018-NM-056-AD; Amendment 39-19590; AD 2019-05-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

460. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Empresa Brasileira de Aeronautica S.A. (Embraer) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0118; Product Identifier 2018-NM-143-AD; Amendment 39-19582; AD 2019-03-30] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

461. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0710; Product Identifier 2018-NM-079-AD; Amendment 39-19574; AD 2019-03-22] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

462. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Office of the Secretary (OOREG), Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Fertility Counseling and Treatment for Certain Veterans and Spouses (RIN: 2900-AP94) received March 19, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

463. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's Major final regulations — Qualified Business Income Deduction [TD 9847] (RIN: 1545-B071) received March 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk

for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mrs. TORRES of California: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 252. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 124) expressing opposition to banning service in the Armed Forces by openly transgender individuals (Rept. 116-19). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida (for herself, Mr. POSEY, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. HOLDING, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. CRIST, Mr. CALVERT, Ms. TITUS, Mr. BUDD, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. EMMER, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. MAST, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. TURNER, Mrs. MURPHY, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. BABIN, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, and Mr. HAGEDORN):

H.R. 1854. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to clarify the Food and Drug Administration's jurisdiction over certain tobacco products, and to protect jobs and small businesses involved in the sale, manufacturing, and distribution of traditional and premium cigars; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee (for himself, Ms. FOX of North Carolina, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. COMER, Mr. WALKER, Mr. BANKS, Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. BUDD, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. BYRNE, and Mr. ROONEY of Florida):

H.R. 1855. A bill to provide protections for workers with respect to their right to select or refrain from selecting representation by a labor organization; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. WATERS (for herself, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. FOSTER, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. CRIST, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. HECK, Mr. CASE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. MENG, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. ROUDA, Ms. OMAR, Mr. HIMES, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. HILL of California, Ms. DEAN, Ms. KAPTUR, Mrs. TORRES of California, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. WELCH, Ms. TLAI, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. COHEN, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. CLAY, and Ms. CLARKE of New York):

H.R. 1856. A bill to provide a path to end homelessness in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in

each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LOWENTHAL (for himself, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. POCAN, Ms. MOORE, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. SOTO, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. COOPER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. PALLONE, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. PETERS, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. MENG, Mr. RYAN, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. KILMER, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. RUSH, Mr. WELCH, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. OMAR, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TONKO, Ms. SHALALA, Ms. WILD, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mrs. MURPHY, Ms. HAALAND, Ms. TITUS, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. HIMES, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SCANLON, and Mr. MCEACHIN):

H.R. 1857. A bill to establish in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor of the Department of State a Special Envoy for the Human Rights of LGBTI Peoples, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BUDD (for himself and Mr. ROONEY of Florida):

H.R. 1858. A bill to preserve open competition and Federal Government neutrality towards the labor relations of Federal Government contractors on Federal and federally funded construction projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. KATKO (for himself and Mr. BRINDISI):

H.R. 1859. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for parent savings accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KINZINGER (for himself, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. LONG, Mr. GUTHRIE, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio):

H.R. 1860. A bill to prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from regulating the rates charged for broadband internet access service; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. LOFGREN:

H.R. 1861. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to conduct a study to determine the relationship between school start times and adolescent health, well-being, and performance; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia (for himself, Mr. BUDD, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. MEADOWS, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. BANKS, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. DUNCAN, and Mr. WALKER):

H.R. 1862. A bill to abolish the Federal Insurance Office of the Department of the Treasury, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. NORCROSS (for himself, Mr. TURNER, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. KIM, Mrs.

LURIA, Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH, Ms. DEAN, and Mr. WELCH):

H.R. 1863. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to provide blood testing for firefighters of the Department of Defense to determine potential exposure to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. NORTON (for herself, Mr. NADLER, Ms. SPEIER, and Ms. DELAURO):

H.R. 1864. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit certain practices by employers relating to restrictions on discussion of employees' and prospective employees' salary and benefit history, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself, Mr.

RUTHERFORD, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. RYAN, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KILMER, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. COOK, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. BACON, Mr. SIRE, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. OLSON, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. COSTA, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. EMMER, Mr. GAETZ, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. KATKO, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. MITCHELL, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mrs. MURPHY, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. KIND, Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. BOST, Mr. PETERS, Mr. VELA, Mr. GHANFORTE, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. GONZÁLEZ of Texas, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. HIMES, Mr. YOHIO, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BERA, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. COMER, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. POSEY, Mr. LATTI, Mr. COLE, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. SOTO, Mr. STEWART, Mr. MAST, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. GUTHRIE, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. SABLON, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. NUNES, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Ms. HILL of California, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. SPANO, Mr. GUEST, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. BRINDISI, Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, Mrs. MILLER, and Mr. HARDER of California):

H.R. 1865. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in commemoration of the opening of the National Law Enforcement Museum in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself and Mr. RUTHERFORD):

H.R. 1866. A bill to amend section 3606 of title 18, United States Code, to grant probation officers authority to arrest hostile third parties who obstruct or impede a probation officer in the performance of official duties; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WILD (for herself, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. HASTINGS):
H.R. 1867. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow miscellaneous itemized deductions subject to a 2-percent floor and to reinstate the overall limitation on itemized deductions; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GALLAGHER (for himself and Mr. NORMAN):

H.J. Res. 53. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require that the Supreme Court be composed of not more than nine justices; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BROOKS of Alabama (for himself, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. PERRY, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, and Mr. KING of Iowa):

H. Res. 253. A resolution recognizing that it is the sense of the United States House of Representatives that Socialism poses a significant threat to the freedom, liberty, and economic prosperity; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. POCAN (for himself, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Ms. DEAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CISNEROS, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WILD, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. SOTO, Mr. COLE, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. BRADY, Mr. BOST, Ms. MENG, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. SABLON, Mr. GUEST, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. TITUS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. SIRE, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. HIMES, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. COHEN, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mr. MAST, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. LOEBACK, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. BACON, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. COMER, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. BRINDISI, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. CROW, Ms. MOORE, Mr. GALLEGOS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. STAUBER, and Ms. LEE of California):

H. Res. 254. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of March 25 through March 29, 2019, as "Public Schools Week"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida:
H.R. 1854.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee:
H.R. 1855.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: the authority enumerated in Clause 3 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution

By Ms. WATERS:
H.R. 1856.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article 1, Section 8, Clause 5 and Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. LOWENTHAL:
H.R. 1857.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article IV, Section 3 of the U.S. Constitution

"The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular state."

By Mr. BUDD:
H.R. 1858.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. KATKO:
H.R. 1859.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution: The Congress shall have the Power To law and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States.

By Mr. KINZINGER:
H.R. 1860.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (Commerce Clause) and Clause 18 (Necessary and Proper Clause)

By Ms. LOFGREN:
H.R. 1861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article 1, section 8, clauses 1 and 3.

By Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia:
H.R. 1862.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. NORCROSS:
H.R. 1863.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article One, Section Eight

By Ms. NORTON:
H.R. 1864.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. PASCRELL:
H.R. 1865.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. PASCRELL:
H.R. 1866.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. WILD:
H.R. 1867.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Sections 1, 7, and 8 of the Constitution of the United States of America.

By Mr. GALLAGHER:
H.J. Res. 53.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 5 of the Constitution authorizes Congress to propose amendments to the Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 6: Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. SPEIER, and Mrs. MCBATH.

H.R. 33: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.

H.R. 35: Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 40: Mr. BUTTERFIELD.

H.R. 55: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.

H.R. 94: Mr. MALINOWSKI.

H.R. 101: Mr. GAETZ, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.

H.R. 129: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 141: Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. CROW, Ms. DEAN, Mr. CRIST, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. SCANLON, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. CLOUD, and Mr. ROUDA.

H.R. 155: Mr. FERGUSON.

H.R. 194: Mr. ADERHOLT.

H.R. 203: Mr. BALDERSON and Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee.

H.R. 230: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 285: Ms. WILD.

H.R. 303: Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. TONKO, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. KIM.

H.R. 306: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.

H.R. 307: Mr. POSEY, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. LAMBORN.

H.R. 372: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.

H.R. 397: Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas.

H.R. 400: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN and Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 446: Mr. WATKINS.

H.R. 473: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 500: Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. SMUCKER, and Mr. PANETTA.

H.R. 510: Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. DUNCAN.

H.R. 530: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. DEFazio, and Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 535: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. MOORE, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, and Ms. HAALAND.

H.R. 541: Mr. VISCLOSKEY.

H.R. 553: Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. BURCHETT, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. GORMERT, Mr. FERGUSON, and Mr. DUNCAN.

H.R. 555: Mr. MALINOWSKI.

H.R. 576: Ms. KAPTUR and Ms. BASS.

H.R. 582: Mr. COOPER.

H.R. 585: Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 605: Mr. NORMAN.

H.R. 609: Mr. BUDD.

H.R. 628: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.

H.R. 641: Mr. MCNERNEY and Ms. MOORE.

H.R. 663: Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. KEATING, Mr. LAMB, and Mr. GARCIA of Illinois.

H.R. 674: Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 677: Mrs. CRAIG, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.

H.R. 712: Ms. HAALAND and Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 716: Mr. COURTNEY.

H.R. 717: Mr. CASE.

H.R. 719: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.

H.R. 721: Mr. BUCHANAN and Mr. ROSE of New York.

H.R. 724: Mrs. CRAIG and Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 728: Mr. COOPER.

H.R. 737: Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. CRAIG, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. HUNTER, Ms. GRANGER, and Mr. HAGEDORN.

H.R. 748: Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. COMER, and Mr. HUIZENGA.

H.R. 763: Mr. ROUDA and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 788: Mr. HUNTER.

H.R. 810: Mr. MCEACHIN, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, and Mr. FOSTER.

H.R. 827: Mr. FERGUSON.

H.R. 832: Mr. DELGADO and Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee.

H.R. 847: Mr. KILMER and Mr. COOPER.

H.R. 872: Mr. MALINOWSKI.

H.R. 877: Mr. WITTMAN and Mr. HICE of Georgia.

H.R. 908: Mr. STIVERS.

H.R. 915: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.

H.R. 916: Mr. STIVERS.

H.R. 919: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 920: Mr. WALTZ, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. TAYLOR.

H.R. 935: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. CLAY, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.

H.R. 936: Ms. TLAIB.

H.R. 938: Mrs. CRAIG.

H.R. 943: Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. STEVENS, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 945: Mr. AGUILAR and Mr. CUMMINGS.

H.R. 949: Mr. NORMAN.

H.R. 1001: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 1004: Ms. TLAIB.

H.R. 1005: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Mr. CARBAJAL.

H.R. 1007: Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas.

H.R. 1010: Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 1024: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 1030: Mr. MALINOWSKI.

H.R. 1044: Mr. STEIL, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. STANTON, Mr. WOMACK, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 1046: Ms. FUDGE.

H.R. 1050: Ms. GABBARD and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

H.R. 1076: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 1078: Mr. CUELLAR and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

H.R. 1098: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H.R. 1108: Mrs. AXNE, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FLORES, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. KATKO, Mrs. LURIA, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. STEWART, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 1114: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. MOORE, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. PORTER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. WILD, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. CUMMINGS.

H.R. 1115: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. MOORE, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 1116: Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. MOORE, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 1126: Mr. DEFazio.

H.R. 1134: Mr. BERA.

H.R. 1135: Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 1140: Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. LAMB, and Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 1149: Mrs. MURPHY, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 1154: Ms. DEAN, Mr. WELCH, Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. GALLEGU,

Mr. GOLDEN, Mr. SOTO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H.R. 1163: Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 1168: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1175: Ms. TITUS, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. GROTHMAN, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. OLSON, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, and Mrs. CRAIG.

H.R. 1223: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 1225: Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. EMMER, Ms. GRANGER, and Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio.

H.R. 1226: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. RYAN, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. BOST, and Mr. DELGADO.

H.R. 1228: Mr. KING of New York, Mr. SEN-SENRENNER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Ms. BASS.

H.R. 1240: Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 1244: Mr. MALINOWSKI.

H.R. 1251: Mr. MALINOWSKI.

H.R. 1257: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.

H.R. 1265: Mr. WATKINS and Ms. CHENEY.

H.R. 1266: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.

H.R. 1306: Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 1307: Ms. JACKSON LEE and Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 1309: Mr. ROSE of New York, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, and Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 1314: Ms. PLASKETT.

H.R. 1327: Ms. BASS, Mr. STIVERS, and Mr. BOST.

H.R. 1328: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, and Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 1339: Mr. ALLEN.

H.R. 1346: Ms. DELBENE, Mr. ROSE of New York, and Mrs. TRAHAN.

H.R. 1364: Mr. TRONE, Mr. SIRE, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Ms. TITUS.

H.R. 1366: Mrs. LESKO and Mr. MCKINLEY.

H.R. 1374: Mr. BANKS.

H.R. 1379: Mr. EMMER, Mr. UPTON, and Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 1380: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 1386: Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 1393: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 1394: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 1406: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. LAMBORN, and Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio.

H.R. 1412: Mr. RATCLIFFE.

H.R. 1423: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER and Mr. QUIGLEY.

H.R. 1425: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. CISNEROS, Ms. SCHRIER, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. ROUDA, Ms. HILL of California, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. TRONE, Mr. BERA, and Mr. ROSE of New York.

H.R. 1426: Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 1437: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 1452: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. GROTHMAN, and Mr. SCHWEIKERT.

H.R. 1469: Mr. NORMAN.

H.R. 1477: Mr. SIRE, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. TAYLOR.

H.R. 1495: Mr. NORMAN.

H.R. 1502: Mr. BUCHSON.

H.R. 1507: Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. MOORE, and Ms. DEAN.

H.R. 1528: Mr. COLE and Mr. MCCAUL.

H.R. 1534: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.

H.R. 1545: Mr. BANKS, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. CONAWAY, and Mr. BABIN.

H.R. 1549: Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 1572: Mr. DELGADO and Mr. HIMES.

H.R. 1587: Mr. HECK.

H.R. 1588: Ms. ESHOO.

H.R. 1592: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 1595: Ms. STEVENS.

H.R. 1596: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.

H.R. 1601: Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 1605: Mrs. MILLER, Mr. GAETZ, and Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma.

H.R. 1616: Ms. KAPTUR and Mr. HUDSON.

H.R. 1622: Mr. ENGEL, Ms. GABBARD, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. LAMB, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H.R. 1629: Mr. BUDD.

H.R. 1638: Mr. CISNEROS.

H.R. 1641: Mr. KIM, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. WALDEN, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.

H.R. 1643: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. SHALALA, Ms. TLAIB, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.

H.R. 1644: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. CLAY, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. KIND, Mr. CROW, Mrs. CRAIG, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. HIMES, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. GALLEGU, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Mr. CUNNINGHAM.

H.R. 1646: Mr. GARAMENDI, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. WELCH, Ms. DEAN, and Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 1678: Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 1682: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 1687: Mrs. LURIA.

H.R. 1688: Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 1695: Ms. MOORE, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. COSTA, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. COMER, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. REED, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. WILD, and Mr. ROUDA.

H.R. 1702: Mr. SPANO.

H.R. 1705: Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Mr. CASTEN of Illinois.

H.R. 1706: Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, and Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 1707: Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, and Mr. CASTEN of Illinois.

H.R. 1709: Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. DEGETTE, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. PETERS, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. BEYER, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. CASTEN of Illinois.

H.R. 1711: Ms. HILL of California and Mr. GOLDEN.

H.R. 1712: Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 1714: Mr. PALLONE.

H.R. 1717: Ms. MOORE, Mr. EVANS, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. NORTON, and Mrs. BUSTOS.

H.R. 1730: Mr. GIANFORTE, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. STEFANIK, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. COOK, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

H.R. 1734: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 1735: Mr. ROSE of New York and Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.

H.R. 1741: Mr. EMMER.

H.R. 1748: Mr. LAMB, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. RYAN, and Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 1753: Mr. NORMAN, Mr. BUDD, Mr. WALKER, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, and Mr. RIGGLEMAN.

H.R. 1766: Ms. BONAMICI and Mr. UPTON.

H.R. 1767: Mr. PASCRELL.

H.R. 1770: Mr. CHABOT, Mr. RUSH, Mr. ABRAHAM, and Mr. FLEISCHMANN.

H.R. 1784: Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. HIMES, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

H.R. 1792: Mr. COLE.

H.R. 1817: Mr. HICE of Georgia and Mr. KING of Iowa.

H.R. 1830: Ms. HAALAND.

H.R. 1834: Mr. CASE and Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 1837: Mr. ENGEL, Mr. MCCAUL, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr.

MEADOWS, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Ms. FRANKEL.

H.R. 1839: Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. GUTHRIE, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. TAYLOR.

H.R. 1850: Mr. SHERMAN and Mr. ZELDIN.

H.J. Res. 7: Ms. ESHOO.

H.J. Res. 23: Mr. HASTINGS.

H.J. Res. 35: Ms. STEVENS.

H.J. Res. 38: Mr. MALINOWSKI and Ms. SHALALA.

H.J. Res. 48: Ms. MATSUI, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H.J. Res. 52: Mr. NORMAN and Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.

H. Con. Res. 20: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.

H. Res. 60: Mr. GOLDEN, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. KHANNA, and Ms. LEE of California.

H. Res. 107: Mr. TURNER.

H. Res. 109: Mr. PASCRELL.

H. Res. 110: Mr. SHIMKUS.

H. Res. 114: Ms. WATERS.

H. Res. 124: Mrs. LURIA, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. KATKO, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas.

H. Res. 141: Mr. FLORES.

H. Res. 152: Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. MEEKS, and Mr. WELCH.

H. Res. 160: Mr. BALDERSON.

H. Res. 171: Mr. MALINOWSKI.

H. Res. 173: Mr. COOK.

H. Res. 197: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H. Res. 219: Mr. VELA.

H. Res. 220: Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. SIRES, Ms. BASS, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. DEUTCH.

H. Res. 221: Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. SIRES, Ms. BASS, and Mr. MEEKS.

H. Res. 222: Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. SIRES, Ms. BASS, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. VELA, Mr. KEATING, and Mr. TRONE.

H. Res. 230: Mr. HIMES and Ms. BASS.

H. Res. 231: Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. HIMES.

H. Res. 238: Ms. OMAR, Mr. HIMES, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Mr. DEUTCH.

H. Res. 246: Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. BONAMICI, Miss RICE of New York, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. BRINDISI, Mr. BERA, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. MENG, Ms. HILL of California, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. BALDERSON.